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BIRTHS.

On the 19th December, at "Saionara," Northam Road, Penang, the wife of CECIL A. LAW, of a daughter.

On the 31st December, at Craigieburn Hotel, the wife of CARL GEORG, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 31st December, at St. Peter's Church, West Point, by the Rev. J. H. France, M.A., ALFRED EDWARD EMANUEL, chief officer s.s. *Kwanglee*, to EMMA, daughter of the late JOHN EDWARD RAE, of Newcastle, N.S.W.

DEATHS.

On the 17th December, at St. Bernard's Hospital, Nagasaki, GEORGE E. RICE, aged 58 years.

On the 29th December, at Taikoktsui, Capt. GEORG FRANZ SACHSE, aged 58 years.

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LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 13th November arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, on the 30th December (47 days); the French mail of the 29th November arrived, per M. M. steamer *Caledonien*, on the 31st December (32 days); and the American mail of the 3rd December arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 31st December (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Imperial Court arrived at Chengting-fu on the afternoon of the 31st ult., and was expected to leave for Paoting-fu on the 2nd inst.

A Tokyo contemporary learns that Russia intends to despatch a further force of 12,000 soldiers to Port Arthur by the end of February next.

H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., starts on a three-months' holiday to-day, leaving for England at 11.15 a.m., from Blake Pier.

As was feared would happen, Mr. W. N. Pethick, formerly private secretary to the late Li Hung-chang, has succumbed to his illness. He died in Tientsin on the 20th ult.

The commencement of the work of the Commission presided over by the Plenipotentiary H.E. Sir James L. Mackay, K.C.I.E., is being delayed by the long illness of the Chinese Commissioner, H.F. Sheng Hsuan-huai.

Certain Powers have asked the United States to hand to them any balance over the amount retained as America's share of the Chinese indemnity, on the ground that theirs is inadequate, but the officials at Washington do not anticipate any balance.

The arrival of the Emperor Kwang Hsu at Peking is reported to be fixed for the 6th of the 12th moon, or the 15th of January. Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai and the high officials of Chihli have gone to meet him. It is also reported in mandarin circles at Shanghai that the Empress Dowager will not arrive the same day at Peking with the Emperor, but a day later—on the 16th inst.

A Belgian priest and many converts have been killed in an anti-foreign outbreak at Pinglo-hien, Kansu province, near General Tung Fuhsiang's quarters. An Imperial edict is reported to have been issued ordering the summary decapitation of all the assailants of these people, and stating that, if the officials do not capture the guilty within a certain time, they will be deprived of office for ever.

The *Nagasaki Press* says:—There is already talk of Marquis Ito succeeding the present Cabinet, but this story is dubbed as absurd and mischievous, because of the estrangement growing wider and wider between the Marquis and his ex-official colleagues; for instance, politicians like Marquis Yamagata, Saizo, etc., who thoroughly detest the parliamentary form of the Government, as typified by the new-fangled political leaders. And no formation of Cabinet is possible without the hearty consent of the aforesaid senior statesmen.

A suspected mutiny among the recently arrived Portuguese Infantry soldiers quartered at the San Francisco barracks, Macao, was averted at 8 o'clock on New Year's night by the prompt action of Lieutenant Marques. 75 marines from the gunboat *Zaire* were landed. It is alleged that dissatisfaction exists among the troops at the smallness of their pay and the quality or quantity of their rations. Three privates were arrested, and a court-martial, presided over by Major Bragança, was held on the 2nd inst.; the result of its deliberations is not yet known.

The Subig Bay prison is to be the chief military prison in the Philippines.

Straits papers announce the arrival in Singapore by the *Ville de Ciotat*, on their way to Saigon, of the members of an important French geographical mission, charged by the Minister for the Colonies with the duty of visiting and reporting upon the Far East generally. This mission is exclusively of a military character, and includes M. Vauloger de Beaupré, an officer on the General Staff, and the chief of the mission; Captains Massenet and Pèan, Lieuts. Roumeguère, de Batz, de Kermallon, Andréa, Ronget, and Bellot. It is supplied with scientific apparatus and instruments of every description, and is to carry on its work for a period of about two years.

The *Manila Times* wrote on Christmas Day:—"The vengeance meted out to the insurgents on the island of Mindoro has been full and satisfying and those who are in sympathy with them have not escaped. Word received in Manila yesterday afternoon of the campaign that is being carried on by Major Pritcher and the officers connected with him tells that the island has been swept bare from north to south, east to west, and only two towns remain as evidence that Mindoro was once a thickly settled community. Up to last Sunday three towns were left. These were Calapan, Pauluan and Mangarin, but on Sunday night the last named town was reduced to ashes."

H. E. Senhor Conselheiro José d'Azevedo Castello-Branca, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Portugal, left for Shanghai on Tuesday by the French mail s.s. *Caledonien* on his way to the Chinese Court at Peking, his mission being the readjustment of the boundaries of Macao with a view to the extension of the Portuguese territory. The suite consists of Sr. Gabriel d'Almeida, secretary, and Sr. C. A. Rocha d'Assumpção interpreter. His Excellency came from Macao, on Monday by the s.s. *Hewingshan* and spent the day in seeing the sights of the Colony, accompanied by the Consul-General, Sr. Conselheiro Romano, and Sr. Leiria. He called on His Excellency the Governor, dined with the Consul-General, and afterwards visited the Club Lusitano. Here he was received by the Committee and success was drunk to his mission. H. E. in turn proposed the toast of the Club and the Portuguese community.

Mr. Conger, the United States Minister at Peking, has addressed a protest to the Chinese Government against the cancelling of the franchise granted to the American China Improvement Company for the construction of a railway from Canton to Hankow and against its transfer to a French corporation. It is understood that the forfeiture of the concession is based on the grounds that the railway has not been completed within the stipulated period and that the control of the American corporation has passed into the hands of Belgians. The State Department holds that the condition of China for the last year and a half has made it impossible for the company to complete the work and that China is therefore responsible for the delay; also that the fact that the company still retains its American charter makes it incumbent upon the United States Government, according to its rule in such cases, to defend the franchise.

THE RECORD OF THE YEAR.

(Daily Press, 1st January.)

The year which closed yesterday, the first year of a new century, has been one full of incident and marked by some great catastrophes. In 1900, in spite of the vigorous continuance of the South African struggle, events in China succeeded in attracting the eyes of the whole civilised world, and public attention was directed to this quarter of the globe in a manner unexampled before. With the change of the contest between China and the Powers from a military to a diplomatic one, general interest in it naturally waned, and those whose business did not bring them into contact with the Far East easily allowed their thoughts to be distracted elsewhere. Not only was this so, however, but we in China have this year had our attention abruptly called away to other than local affairs. 1901 will long be remembered as the year which saw the deaths of Queen Victoria and President McKinley, the one in January, the other in September. Two such events, so different in their circumstances, but both befalling one section of the human race, cannot but leave a mark on the history of the time. In both cases he to whom the lot has fallen to succeed so popular a ruler has declared his firm intention of faithfully following his predecessor's policy. Under the British system of constitutional government it was not to be anticipated that the accession of a new monarch would, even did that monarch wish it, produce any essential changes in the conduct of domestic or foreign affairs. Nor was it to be expected that the man who followed Mr. McKinley at the White House would make any material departure from the course mapped out by the murdered President. Nevertheless, President Roosevelt has already shown signs of originality, and it may be held certain that his rule will not be of a wavering or invertebrate nature. The conclusion of the Isthmian Canal treaty within the first three months of his presidency bears promise of the best of relations between the United States and Great Britain, and there are not wanting other indications of a closer bond between the two great Anglo-Saxon nations of the world. In a time of constantly varying friendships and estrangements like the present, this bears additional significance. The drawing together of Britain and Germany, which seemed imminent at the beginning of the past year, has been checked by the absolutely unjust and often malignant attacks made upon the British army, not only by irresponsible publicists and foolish sentimentalists but even by educated men and women in Germany. The outcry in the less reputable sections of other Continental nations, if less marked of late, at least leaves no room for doubt that our enemies are as vigorous in language and as ill-willed as ever. The dark side of international relations has been sadly illustrated in China during 1901. The many disputes at Tientsin, certain incidents at Peking, and the Nagasaki affair in April—some of which ended in several deaths—manifested how hard it is to maintain side by side troops of nations whose interests are widely at variance, even when united nominally against a common foe. That Count von Waldersee, the Commander-in-Chief of the Allies, did his best to control an unruly collection of contingents is not to be denied; in fact, had he not made the mistake of imagining himself an orator when he returned to Germany, his share in the history of the campaign against China would have been much to his credit. Since

his departure at the close of operations, though the state of unacknowledged war has not been revived, all has not been peaceful. Brigandage in Chihli proved very difficult to cope with until the approach of the cold season, and in Manchuria it is still rife. Conflagrations, suspected to be the result of incendiarism, have occurred, and the two on the 1st November, one involving the Royal Welsh Fusiliers' barracks in Tientsin and the other in the British barracks at Sin-ho, seem difficult to explain otherwise than as the work of miscreants. In the South, as recently as October, an anti-missionary outbreak, unconnected with disturbances in the North, resulted in the destruction of some property of the German Basel Mission in Kwangtung, but in no loss of life. Severe floods in the Yangtze Valley led to fears of an outbreak at the beginning of October, but these were fortunately unrealised, and Chinese and foreigners alike have been contributing to relieve the distress.

Meanwhile the signature, after long procrastination on the part of the Chinese, of the treaty between China and the Powers has been hailed by the more optimistic as the first step toward a new era in the history of the Empire and denounced by the pessimists as a farce. The soberest judges take a middle view and trust that if China be kept to the observance of the terms of the treaty a new state of affairs may indeed be gradually brought about; but they stipulate that the reactionary advisers of the Empress Dowager and that lady herself must first be swept away. That this task will be an easy one no one imagines, for the Emperor seems as much a puppet as ever, and a suitable heir apparent in succession to Pu Chun remains to be found. Nevertheless, the Court is well on its way to Peking, where it is expected to arrive on the 15th instant, and the return to the old seat of government can but be followed by considerable changes. The influence of the Yangtze Viceroys has been exhibited by the way in which they fought the late Li Hung-chang over the Manchurian Convention, and there is also no doubt that their pressure has done much to bring about the recent departure of the Court from Kaifeng-fu. Their success encourages the hope that by their aid the remnants of the reactionary party may be defeated, and a moderate government set up at Peking, friendly to reform but not so unbalanced as those advisers of His Majesty Kwang Hsu who brought about the *coup d'état* in 1898. With such a government in power alone can it be expected that the commercial negotiations about to be conducted as a sequel to the treaty of peace between China and the Powers can be brought to an auspicious conclusion. Of the lines on which these negotiations will be carried on it would be premature to speak at present, but it is satisfactory to think that the China Association and League and the various Chambers of Commerce have been energetically stirring up the British Government to an appreciation of what commercial men in the Far East see to be necessary for the advantageous conduct of trade and the mutual good feeling between natives and foreigners in China. The new tariff has been in force for a month and a half; but until the conversion of *ad valorem* into specific duties (which according to the promise of the Foreign Office to the China Association will be expedited as much as possible) little comment can be made on its working. The final result of the commercial negotiations should be to bring about a vast increase of China's trade

and of her revenues—a fortunate termination for China to a war brought about by her almost unparalleled outrage against the rules of international conduct. Nor is China to suffer territorially for her offence, unless Russia's aggression in Manchuria is weakly allowed by the other Powers to become successful. That the Convention which practically surrendered the province to Russia still remains unsigned is due to death of Li Hung-chang, certainly China's greatest man but unfortunately not a factor in the advancement of his country. His decease in November last postponed the occurrence of a very dangerous state of affairs, and the fate of Manchuria remains one of the problems to be solved in 1902.

In Hongkong the past year, if not notable for any very remarkable occurrences, has been fairly eventful. Commercially the trade of the port, like that of South China, has not been satisfactory. Trade in piece goods and imports generally has been for the most part restricted to the supply of immediate requirements, dealers being disinclined to buy largely, partly owing to the still unsettled condition of affairs in China and partly to the state of disorder in the interior of the Two Kwang due to piracy. This restriction has been further accentuated by the continued fall in exchange. The opium trade has, on the other hand, shown considerable activity, owing in some degree to the lessened output of the native drug. Freights ruled steady for the first half of the year, but latterly there has been a marked decline in rates and less employment offering for tonnage. The local history of Hongkong in 1901 has been marked by several attempts to improve the conditions of living in the Colony. A very strong agitation was carried on early in the year against the admittedly unsatisfactory state of sanitation, and as a result a Special Commission has been appointed from England to investigate affairs. This Commission is about to commence its enquiry, and the result of its studies is anxiously awaited. The opinion has been growing for years among the residents here that unless some change be introduced, whereby Hongkong can be freed from the visitations of plague, with its attendant evil consequences on the commercial and labour questions, the prosperity of the port will be gravely menaced. A very bad epidemic has raged during 1901, the mortality among Europeans being the worst on record in Hongkong. At one time a strike among coolies was thought possible; a large exodus of the working-class Chinese actually occurred, and labour was hard to procure. Our intercourse with neighbouring ports was seriously hampered, and a dislocation of business was the inevitable result. The strong attitude of those who took upon themselves to promote a Petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, however, has borne fruit and, as we have said, a Commission is now about to enquire into the existing state of affairs. Locally two commissions have been appointed, which the public hoped would not be without their use. The Private Chair and Jinricksha Coolie Commission's report, unfortunately, appears to have been shelved by the Government, whether permanently or not remains to be seen. The investigation into the Public Works Department is still pending. Attention was called to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in connection with building operations in the Colony by a number of house-collapses, including the terrible disaster in Cochrane Street on the 14th August. This is a question which can only be solved by an increase in the numbers and efficiency of the Public Works

Department staff, a reform for which we have long been asking. Turning to other domestic affairs, we have to record the severe blows received by the legal profession in Hongkong in the deaths of Messrs. J. J. FRANCIS, K.C., and E. ROBINSON, and the departures of Sir JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G., Chief Justice, and Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C. Among pleasant items are to be noted the numerous visitors who arrived at this port in 1901, including Prince CHUN in July and October, Admiral SEYMOUR, M. DE GIER, and within the last week Senhor Conselheiro CASTELLO-BRANCO. Externally our relations with the neighbouring government at Canton have been marred only by the visit of the miscreant who committed the Gage Street murder on the 10th January; this case unfortunately has never been fully threshed out. The present Viceroy, H.E. TAO MU, has shown himself in general anxious to act in the best interests of his country by maintaining excellent relations with foreigners. The opening of a new year, with its promise of an amelioration of trade conditions and the knowledge that at last an effort is being made to grapple with the most serious drawbacks to life in Hongkong, is to be welcomed, and with the best hope for the future we wish our readers, in the time-honoured phrase,

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR.

THE RULERS OF CHINA.

(Daily Press, 30th December.)

The decision of the Chinese Court to return to Peking has no doubt been influenced by a variety of reasons. The inconveniences attending the location of the Palace retinues in cities where no sufficient accommodation exists except of a very temporary character would naturally induce the Imperial personages to consider the advantages a return to the modern capital of the Empire undoubtedly offer. The drawbacks occasioned by the seat of Government being so far from the coast and the great centres of population must have been very seriously felt by the Court during its residence at Hsian-fu. The Emperor KWANG HSU naturally disliked the withdrawal of the Court from the centre of Government and from what had to him always been the centre of civilisation. The Empress Dowager was probably less affected by the change, though she must have missed many of the conveniences and luxuries of life to which she had been accustomed in Peking. But she prized the sense of security which the great distance from the coast and therefore from the foreign armies gave. Her Majesty knew that the Foreign Powers were incensed against her for the encouragement she or her adherents and advisers had afforded to the Boxer conspirators, and she was, not unnaturally, a little dubious as to the reception that might be given to her were she to place herself within their reach. It required no little persuasion, no slight encouragement, to induce this astute old lady to believe that she would be left in peace if she ventured back to the scene of conflict in Peking. Several efforts were made to persuade the Empress to return to Peking, but for a long time she could not be got to agree to travel farther, at any rate for the present, than Kaifeng-fu. The Grand Secretary YUNG LU appears, from native reports, to have done his utmost to bring Her Majesty to the right frame of mind on this subject, but for a long time without success, and it seemed probable that the Court would linger in that city for several years to come, but for an attempt

made, on the 10th ultimo, by some members of the secret societies—the *Kolao Hui* and *Tatao Hui*—to fire the temporary palace at Kaifeng during the celebration there of Her Majesty's birthday. This event gave emphasis to YUNG LU's persuasive eloquence, and he drove home his arguments with so much effect that the Court is now really en route for the old capital. At any rate reports are current in native circles that the Court will reach Peking about the middle of January next, unless YUAN SHI-KAI's advice be taken and a halt cried at Paoting-fu, pending the evacuation of Tientsin by the foreign troops.

So far it is clearly apparent that the fountain of authority in the Central Kingdom is still the Empress Dowager. It is Her Majesty who decides on the movements of the Imperial Court and Her Majesty only. The Emperor KWANG HSU, the Son of Heaven, the occupant of the Dragon Throne, the sole sovereign within the Four Seas, the absolute lord of more than three hundred millions of people, has really no say in the matter. His wishes do not seem to have even been consulted; he is merely a puppet Emperor, no more than a name. Even those officials who would fain act under his orders and by his authority alone, are compelled to seek directions and sanction from the old lady who sways the destinies of China. Even the new Grand Secretary, YUNG LU, has been obliged to defer to this usurper of power, as will be seen by the following remarks contained in a letter he recently sent to some high officials in Central China, in which he exhorted them to "keep up their hearts, as he was using all his best endeavours and influence with the Empress Dowager to persuade her to listen to his advice and return to Peking, and that he would guarantee that their Majesties would leave Kaifeng for Peking on the date fixed." That there are other and less beneficial influences than those of YUNG LU at work at the Chinese Court is unhappily the fact. The harem influences are there, and they are both pernicious and corrupt. LI LIEN-YING, the favourite eunuch of the Empress Dowager, has Her Majesty's ear, and is always ready to instil poison into it if it suits him to do so. He uses his influence almost entirely for the gratification of his greed and the furtherance of his own ends. The Kaifeng correspondent of a Shanghai native paper shows how cleverly this knave worked the movements of the Court for his own profit. When the Court journeyed from Hsian-fu to Kaifeng there were frequent complaints made as to the arrangements entered into for Her Majesty's comfort. So soon, however, as they arrived at the Honan frontier, all difficulties at once vanished, and no complaints were made. The correspondent accounts for this by saying that the Governor and Treasurer of Honan took the bull by the horns, by filling LI LIEN-YING's pockets first and then arranging for the comfort of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, while the authorities of Shensi haggled with the eunuch and cut down his demands. The Chihli mandarins, profiting by the experience of other provincial officials, went one better than their confrères of Honan and gave LI LIEN-YING all he asked and a trifle over for luck. This is to smooth the way for the journey of the Court through that province to Peking. Nothing can be done in China without bribery, and the nearer approach is made to the centre of Government the greater grow the greed and extortion of officials. With such advisers and such harpies dominating the Court, it cannot be a source

of much wonder that corruption should be rampant, or that the Government should be rotten and untrustworthy to an extent unknown in Western countries. The Chinese Government has been through the furnace of adversity, but, it is to be feared, has emerged little the better for the experience.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

(Daily Press, 30th December.)

On the 23rd instant the Peking correspondent of the *North China Daily News* telegraphed to that journal the following message:—"I learn from a most reliable source that the following is the present position of the negotiations as to Manchuria, which were opened on Friday between the Peace Plenipotentiaries, Prince CHING and WANG WEN-SHAO, and the Russian Minister. The Russian Minister said that there was no need for further discussion of the Convention, the terms of which had been already settled with LI HUNG-CHANG, and he must insist that the Peace Plenipotentiaries should at once accept it as it stands. They answered that they are not very well acquainted with the details of the previous negotiations, and as LI HUNG-CHANG was dead, they did not feel bound to accept the Convention as it stands, but must demand re-opening of negotiations. The matter could not be settled on the spot, and the conference was ended, the Plenipotentiaries promising to write to the Russian Minister after they had re-considered the question. WANG WEN-SHAO's desire is to abandon the terms arranged by LI HUNG-CHANG, but he is afraid that China will be helpless if any disastrous consequences follow her rejection of the Convention, and he seems inclined, if no other course can be found, to yield to the Russian Minister's demands, with the modification of a few points which are most unfavourable to China." The telegram which we published in our issue of the 27th instant, dated from Shanghai on the previous evening, apparently gives the next step in the long and tortuous negotiations over Manchuria. It will be remembered that there were contained therein four objections formulated by the Chinese Plenipotentiaries against the terms of the Convention. Apart from the four terms to which exception was taken they professed themselves ready to discuss the agreement at once, but to those four they requested an answer from M. LESSAR.

The difficulty of comprehending the exact state of affairs is greatly enhanced by the fact that, like the Chinese Plenipotentiaries, we are "not very well acquainted with the details of the previous negotiations." There have been put forward from time to time various statements professing to give the text of the Convention. At least twice have we been told that Russia had withdrawn her demands, only to learn almost immediately that she was making others nearly identical in form. Hence we cannot say with any approach to accuracy what was the Convention which LI HUNG-CHANG was reported to be on the point of signing when he died on the 7th November. Judging, however, from the objections attributed to Prince CHING and WANG WEN-SHAO, we may conclude that not much change has been made from the terms of the draft agreement published by us in March last, on the authority of our Shanghai morning contemporary's correspondent at Peking. The points to which the Chinese representatives very naturally take exception are, briefly, the demand that Russia should exclusively train the troops

in Manchuria, limit their number, and appoint a Russian commander; that she should remain three years more in the province; that China should await Russia's consent and assistance in opening any mines in Manchuria and employ only Russian capital; and that after the restoration of the Newchwang railway to China, the latter must depend on Russia's consent, cooperation, and capital for opening any branch lines. China, in fact, objects to Russia taking over Manchuria in all but name. That her representatives could do anything less without proving themselves to belong to the same corrupt gang which has mismanaged the Empire's affairs during the past few years, it is impossible to imagine. Prince CHING and his colleague have asked for a reopening of negotiations, though willing to accept the other terms of the old agreement as a basis for discussion. If the Russian Minister keeps to his demand that the agreement arranged with the late LI HUNG-CHANG must be accepted as it stands, an absolute deadlock is arrived at, which can only be relieved by the yielding of one of the parties. In fact, nine months seem to have brought the situation no nearer finality than it was at the commencement. All the talk about the influence of Japan having caused Russia to cease her illicit pressure on China would in this case be unfounded, and it remains for the Powers interested to devote themselves yet more vigorously to the task of preventing by all diplomatic resources Russia's barefaced aggression from gaining the desired end. The somewhat amorphous resistance of China to her neighbour's greed cannot be prolonged indefinitely, and those Powers which have real commercial interests in Manchuria are called upon to do something more than in the past to protect their rights, if they do not wish very shortly to see them lost for ever.

MISSIONARIES AND LOOTING.

(Daily Press, 3rd January.)

The home papers last to hand bring ample details of the agitation which has been proceeding in France over the question of looting in Peking after the capture of the city by the Allies. Echoes of the discussion have been heard in other countries, but it was in France that so much publicity was given to the matter. This was partly due to the fact that the anti-clerical party in the French Chamber seized the opportunity offered by the consideration of the Chinese Loan Bill to make a violent attack on the conduct of missionaries at Peking. One deputy, Mr. BERTEAUX, proposed a motion in the following terms:—"The Chamber expresses its complete reprobation of the acts of the robbing and pillaging bishop and missionaries." This motion was defeated by 314 votes to 163, but nevertheless there can be no doubt that the impression made by the debate, combined with the publication of General VOYRON's report, had no small effect on public opinion. This was hardly to be wondered at, considering the facts made known by the report, the authenticity of which has not been denied. One passage in this is worth quotation, as it has not yet been published in the Far Eastern Press, as far as we are aware. General VOYRON is describing the celebrated looting of Prince Li's Palace. He says:—"The missionaries, no doubt well informed, came to the Palace with 40 carts and 200 to 300 native Christians employed as coolies and began a methodical search. They gathered up the silver ingots, and thus collected an important sum. They got themselves aided in this operation by

"soldiers and sailors stationed at Peitang, to whom as a gratuity they gave personal cheques of the value of 2,000 francs on the Sisters of Saint Vincent de Paul, in France. On learning the lot that had befallen their comrades, certain men not at the Peitang abandoned their cantonments and came to seek silver bars for themselves. Being unable to utilise them, they exchanged them for cheques bearing their names on one CHAMOT, a Peking restaurant-keeper, or on the Père Procureur of the mission. These exchanges, the amount of which it is not easy to determine, were made, it appears, at a very heavy rate of interest." The report proceeds to say that the cheques given to the soldiers were either partially pooled in a common fund or returned to the missionaries, but that the French sailors refused to give back their cheques. Finally a cheque for 5,000 francs was written in Mgr. FAVIER's name in compensation for the cheques which had been handed as gratuities to soldiers who had assisted the missionaries in carrying off the money and which these soldiers had turned into a common fund. To quiet the scandal, it appears that the amount collected by the looters—it is not clear how the figures were arrived at—was subtracted from the sum total of the compensation claimed by the French Roman Catholic bodies. According to the *Temps*, 170,000 Taels were knocked off the indemnity on this count. Father BETTENBORG, who is Procurator-General of the French Lazarists, to whose lot it fell to pay the cheques signed by the Lazarists in Peking, similarly stated in an interview with a representative of the *Paris Figaro*:—"Everything that the missionaries were obliged to take after the siege—about 640,000 francs—has been cut out of the indemnity. The mission has paid for all the mission property burnt round Peitang during the siege. The pagan people, who did not expect that, came en masse to thank the missionaries." In this way, France has tried to atone for a discreditable incident, but the stigma on the missionaries can scarcely be considered to have been removed. There are, however, reverend looters of other nationalities, whose action, as far as is publicly known, has not thus been disowned by those responsible. The ethics of looting is a thorny subject, but beyond a doubt it was a most unfortunate thing that so many of the men who came out to China with the avowed intention of teaching the Chinese a higher system of morality than was known to them already should have allowed themselves to be involved in conduct which if not absolutely discreditable was at least of questionable honesty. It is in such circumstances that it is least advisable to have resort to the plea *Humanum est errare*.

The *Manila Times* says that "from telegrams received in Manila it is learned that Sixto Lopez has taken passage on the *Rosetta Maru* and as that vessel is now due, another scene will be enacted in the Warren-Patterson-Lopez drama. Senor Lopez has probably decided to come to Manila to look after the members of his family who were arrested at Batangas the other day by General Boll. This decision has in all likelihood been strengthened by his recent interviews at Hongkong with Attorney Terrell and Captain Dwyer. The latter gentleman is also supposed to be a fellow-passenger on the *Rosetta Maru* with Lopez. Whatever the decision may be which prompted the agitator to beard the lion in his den, will make no difference to the authorities, for upon his arrival he will be immediately requested to take the oath of allegiance, and in case of refusal a return trip to Hongkong will be presented him." We may state, however, that Senor Lopez did not sail by the *Rosetta Maru*.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 2nd January, 8 p.m.

A Belgian priest and many converts have been killed in an anti-foreign outbreak at Pinglo-hien, Kansu province, near General Tung Fuhsiang's quarters.

MUTINY AT MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

MACAO, 1st January, 3.45 p.m.

A suspected mutiny among the recently arrived Portuguese Infantry soldiers quartered at the San Francisco barracks was averted at 8 o'clock last night by the prompt action of Lieutenant Marques. 75 marines from the gunboat *Zaire* were landed. It is alleged that dissatisfaction exists among the troops at the smallness of their pay and the quality of their rations. Three privates were arrested, and a court-martial will sit to-morrow.

[We are informed on the authority of arrivals from Macao on Thursday that nine men in all have been arrested in connection with the attempted mutiny. It was also stated, from the same source, that the discontent arose owing to the Macao Government having decided to pay the troops on a lower scale than they had been led to expect before they came out to China, and having deprived the men of a blanket which they were to have had served out to them. We give this report for what it is worth, as we naturally cannot verify it yet—ED. D. P.]

CHINESE PRESENTATION TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

A large number of the leading Chinese in the Colony waited upon His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., at Government House at noon on the 2nd inst. and presented him with an address on the occasion of his leaving for home to-day on a holiday. The ceremony took place in the Ball Room. His Excellency was accompanied by Sir Thomas Jackson; the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary; Hon. A. W. Brewin Registrar-General; Lieut. Blake, A.D.C., and Mr. R. F. Johnston, private secretary. Amongst the Chinese were Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Messrs. Fung Wa Chun, Wei On, Ho Fook, Liao Tse Sang, Ho Tung, Tan Tsz Tong, Yung Yip Ting, Lung Po Tsz, Li San Hin, Chang Kang Yi, Kwang King Leung, Mok Man Cheung, Lau Chu Pak, Lai Shun Hing, Pun Tsz Wang, Chan Win Yu, Chun Lan Hing, and Yip Chi Sin. The company stood on each side of the apartment to receive the Governor, who walked down the centre and took his place standing, in front of a table at the upper end.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI, addressing the Governor, said—On the eve of your departure for England on a well earned holiday, I am requested by the leading members of the Chinese community to respectfully present you with an address. In doing so on their behalf, I can assure Your Excellency that I feel the greatest personal pleasure, while at the same time I am sensible of the honour that my Chinese fellow-citizens have conferred upon me by entrusting me with the performance of this most agreeable and congenial function. It is now fully three years since Your Excellency took up the reins of Government in this important Colony of Hongkong and during that period your wise, liberal and just administration has completely won the admiration, esteem, and confidence of every section of the Chinese community. Shortly after your arrival in 1898, the Chinese began to feel that in their new Governor they had not only an august ruler but also a sympathetic friend; and in the course of time this feeling became a conviction, and with this conviction grew their affection and esteem for Your Excellency's person and increased their gratitude and loyalty to the British Crown and Government which you have so worthily represented. For, as I take it, Sir, it is scarcely human nature not to appreciate an administra-

tion such as Your Excellency's where justice is always tempered with mercy, where national prejudices readily give place to personal sympathy, where the stern voice of command is generally softened by words of encouragement the most kindly, and when the imposition of the most stringent law is invariably accompanied with the greatest consideration for those who are thereby affected. We sincerely thank Your Excellency, therefore, for having graciously afforded us to-day this opportunity of testifying publicly our grateful appreciation of your administration, which will long be remembered by each and all of us as being eminently sympathetic and benevolent. Our fond hope is that after a short visit home you will return to this island and continue the noble policy of an enlightened Government which you have inaugurated and carried out during the past three years. We shall look forward with great pleasure, and I am afraid with some degree of impatience, to the day when we may welcome you back amongst us accompanied by your noble consort, Lady Blake, to whose gentle kindness and unfailing sympathy we owe so much and for whom we entertain the profoundest esteem and sincerest regard. I beg leave now to read the address.

The address ran as follows:—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

SIR HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies and Vice-Admiral of the same.

YOUR EXCELLENCY—On behalf of the Chinese Community of Hongkong we beg respectfully to offer to you our best wishes for a pleasant holiday and to place on record the profound gratitude and admiration which your able and sympathetic administration has inspired in us. Indeed, if we may venture to prophesy, long after the details of your administration have grown dim it will be remembered among us by its benevolent and sympathetic character. It is by sympathy alone that the gulf that separates class from class, race from race, and religion from religion can be bridged over, and the possession of that quality and your freedom from the trammels that ignorance and prejudice impose have enabled you to take a liberal and broadminded view of all the problems you have been called upon to solve.

During the three years of Your Excellency's rule we have experienced storm as well as sunshine. Each spring has witnessed a recrudescence of the plague and each recrudescence has necessitated the adoption of stringent sanitary precautions. But the annoyance and discomfort that these have caused to many of us have been mitigated by the knowledge that we had your cordial sympathy and that, whilst recognising the necessity of the measures adopted, you recognised also that consideration was due to those who might possibly suffer under them and insisted on the greatest patience being exercised.

The typhoon of November last year, which caused so much loss and suffering to the boat population, gave to us another opportunity of appreciating your sympathy with such, the most humble members of our community, when anything touches their welfare, and it was to Your Excellency that were due the measures of relief that were taken.

It will be long too before we forget that during the lamentable occurrences in the province of Chihli last year your prompt assistance restored to their homes many Cantonese who were in a state of extreme destitution and danger, and that during that grave crisis, when the events in Peking had estranged European sympathy, we still received at your hands the same just treatment and consideration, and we feel proud that during that trying time your confidence in our loyalty remained unshaken. Your Excellency is also to be congratulated on having successfully maintained the most cordial relations with the local Government at Canton, thus enabling trade and commerce to be carried on with the neighbouring provinces without interruption or diminution.

But out of evil springs good, and the trials of the last few years have served to bring out into stronger relief the sympathetic character of your government and to bind the Chinese inhabitants of the Colony more closely to the British Empire.

Every department of our social and municipal life has experienced the stimulating effect of your keen interest. The increased accommodation at the Tuen Wa Hospital testifies to it, as does the Infectious Diseases Hospital which is being built at Kennedy Town; and we recall with gratitude that we are indebted to Your Excellency for the recognition of the justice of our claim to treat Chinese suffering from infectious diseases in our own hospital under Government medical inspection.

The erection of public bath-houses will give the labouring classes opportunities which they have not hitherto possessed in Hongkong of exercising cleanliness, and the maintenance of law and order will be rendered easier by the erection of the Central District Watchmen's House on land given by the Government; and by the opportunity thus given of improving the discipline of the force.

The movement in favour of a more liberal education for our sons and daughters owes its existence to your suggestion and encouragement and to that of Lady Blake.

But it is not only the inhabitants of Hongkong who have cause to remember Your Excellency's administration. The benevolent spirit that actuates it has been quickly recognised by the inhabitants of the New Territory. The good order that was so soon established and that still exists there undisturbed bears testimony to the contentment of the inhabitants and to their confidence in the justice of British rule. The interest that Your Excellency has taken in agriculture and in local industries has been highly appreciated and will bear good fruit, and we are confident that the money devoted to the opening up of communications and to developing the resources of the Territory is money well spent, and that the New Territory will soon prove a valuable acquisition to this Colony.

In conclusion we beg to offer to Your Excellency our respectful congratulations on the present state of the Colony. On all sides is to be seen evidence of industrial and commercial growth, whilst the increase in the Colonial revenue has kept pace with commercial development. We trust that Your Excellency will spend a pleasant holiday and that on your arrival in England you will find your family in good health; and we hope that it will not be long before you return invigorated to resume the responsible duties of your high office. We respectfully beg that Your Excellency will be kind enough to convey to Lady Blake, who we hope will accompany you on your return, our sincerest wishes for her welfare. Those who have had the privilege and honour of knowing Lady Blake will not soon forget her never-failing kindness and her gracious interest in all relating to the social and family life of the Chinese. (Applause).

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN afterwards read the address in Chinese.

Resuming, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai said—Before handing to Your Excellency the address, however, I would ask your kind permission to refer to two matters. The first is that the album I am about to hand over to you, Sir, contains only a copy of the address in English and Chinese; the address itself is being sent to Canton to be embroidered on silk. When it is finished I shall have the honour to forward it to Your Excellency. The next is, I regret to-day the unavoidable absence of my honourable colleague Mr. Wei Yuk, whose letter to me, if Your Excellency will permit me to read it, will explain itself. He writes as follows under the date 30th December:—“Dear Dr. Ho Kai,—Kindly make my sincere apologies to His Excellency and express my deep regret for my unavoidable absence on the occasion of the presentation of an address to him by the Chinese. My absence is due to family reasons. My presence is required in Canton on the occasion of the marriage of my nephew, and I am suffering from ill health besides, and my medical adviser has advised me to leave Hongkong for a change of air. Kindly offer my apologies to His Excellency.” With these remarks, I beg to present the address to you. (Applause).

The address was formally accepted by His Excellency. It is the work of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh and reflects credit upon them by the excellence of its design and execution. It is

bound in black relieved by silver filigree corner-pieces, and in the centre is a small tablet of the same metal bearing the following inscription:—Presented to His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., by the Chinese community of Hongkong and others.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR having accepted the address, said—Dr. Ho Kai and gentlemen, I thank you most heartily for the evidence of good feeling towards me and Lady Blake conveyed in this address, and you, Dr. Ho Kai, for the observations with which it has been so kindly prefaced by you. In your observations on the effects of sympathy I fully concur. Without mutual sympathy and forbearance it is difficult for two peoples with divergent social systems and customs to live together with comfort as free men. And that we do live without friction in Hongkong, where every man enjoys freedom in its fullest form, freedom to think his own thoughts, to speak his own mind, and to guide his own actions without interference, so long as those actions do not prevent the exercise of a similar freedom by others, is a proof that the feeling of sympathy is not confined to the Governor but is widely shared by the community, European and Chinese. You have mentioned many incidents of the three years since I have assumed the administration of this Government, and chiefest among them is the annually recurring visitation of plague. This is a scourge that has been known in Europe for several hundreds of years. In olden times when Europe knew as little of sanitation as China knows to-day one half the population was swept away in certain places by the plague, but with the increased knowledge of the present day the plague, which has again been introduced from the East, has made no progress but has died out in consequence of the very stringent sanitary measures of disinfection and cleanliness undertaken by the various Sanitary Boards. It is because we have seen the success of these measures that we are striving so eagerly to save the lives of the Chinese people in Hongkong by the adoption of similar means, and I wish to tell you and, through you, the Chinese people how deeply I am impressed by their attitude and assistance in our present efforts to avert by timely precautions a visitation of plague in the present year. I have walked through the streets that are being disinfected and I see the Chinese families bearing all the inevitable discomforts with a cheerful fortitude that could not be exceeded by any community in the world. God grant that these precautions may be successful, but successful or not you may rest assured that we are trying honestly to save the lives of the Chinese working people by the measures that seem to us to promise the greatest prospect of success. The movement in favour of more liberal education is fraught with issues of great moment for the people of all Southern China in the future, for such an advance in knowledge among your immediate families will inevitably extend to the neighbouring provinces and bring the light of modern knowledge to supplement the classical literature with which China has been content for so many centuries. With knowledge will come progress and a new and brighter life. I have no doubt that the report of the Commission on Education, now sitting in Hongkong, of which Dr. Ho Kai is a member, will suggest many improvements in the system of education now existing in this Colony. I receive with great pleasure the renewed expression of your loyalty to His Majesty the King, and the confirmation of reports from other sources of the contentment of the inhabitants of the New Territory. Of your loyalty you have given substantial proofs; and as to the New Territory, the inhabitants have shown by their actions that they already realise the benefits of living under the benign rule of Great Britain. I have every reason to be satisfied with their conduct. I agree with you that the New Territory will ere long form a prosperous portion of the Colony of Hongkong. I am glad to tell you that we have completed the construction of the leper settlement near Un Long to replace the miserable huts in which these afflicted people were half sheltered before we took over the territory. This settlement of wretched shanties constructed by these poor people

themselves in the most primitive manner, in the middle of a swamp has been replaced by small houses built by the Public Works Department on the side of a hill hard by. Farther than this supply of proper shelter I have not felt it necessary to go, as the neighbours, with that ready charity that I have found so conspicuous in the Chinese people, support the unfortunate sufferers with sufficient supply of food. You point to the development of the Colony, and I agree with you that its development is everything that could be desired. As the trade of China increases so must Hongkong take its toll of the ever-increasing mass of shipping passing through our port. But that increase of business means an increased influx of people and increased difficulty in their accommodation. I hope that the many houses now being erected in Kowloon, and the encouragement to building outside Victoria that will be given by the construction of a tram line from West to East, will relieve the overcrowding in the town of Victoria, where we cannot continue to tolerate a pressure of population declared to be dangerous to the health of the community and unequalled in any city in China or in any part of the world. And now, gentlemen, once again I thank you for your expression of good feeling, which I assure you is warmly reciprocated by Lady Blake and myself. I hope to be back before the summer, and I earnestly pray that Hongkong may be spared from a visitation of plague this year. But, whatever Providence may have in store for us, I am certain that should we unhappily have to face another epidemic you will meet it with fortitude and in any case that you will be in the future as in the past patient, practical, peaceful subjects of His Majesty the King. I look forward to our return with pleasure and I wish you one and all a happy and a prosperous New Year. (Applause).

At the conclusion of the Governor's remarks, Dr. Ho Kai rendered it shortly into Chinese, after which three hearty cheers were given on his call for His Excellency and three more and a "tiger" for Lady Blake, on the call of Mr. Fung Wa Chün.

His Excellency—I thank you very cordially, for myself and on behalf of Lady Blake, to whom I shall not fail to communicate the good feelings you have expressed.

Light refreshments were then served, and after being photographed in front of the house the company dispersed.

ALLEGED ARREST OF A CHINESE REFORMER ON A BRITISH VESSEL.

We are informed from a reliable source that Chinese officials at Canton on Wednesday last boarded a British steamer on its arrival at that city, arrested a Chinaman on a charge of being a Reformer, and conveyed him to prison where he now lies awaiting execution.

It appears the unfortunate man is named Put Wing Nin, and is a B.A. of Honan province. For some time he has lived in Hongkong, and being progressive in his ideas has been marked down by the spies and satellites of the Chinese Government, who reside here and work their will in defiance of the British authorities. Put Wing Nin was a passenger by the s.s. *Powan*, and he was followed to Canton by spies who, it is said, in company with Chinese officials who boarded the ship on its arrival, arrested him on the charge of being a Reformer. The arrest must have been made secretly and the man practically kidnapped, for the steamer agents here appear to be ignorant of the matter. The Reformer will most likely be executed, although his being a scholar may delay such a fate. Several of the Consuls, we understand, are moving in the matter, and if it is the case, as is stated, that he was arrested on a British vessel, there is no doubt our able and energetic Consul-General at Canton will take prompt and vigorous action.

With the recent murder of a schoolmaster, also a Reformer, in the Colony by the emissaries of the Chinese officials at Canton, an outrage as yet unavenged, and this latest outrage of the spies of the Chinese Govern-

ment who reside here, it might well and reasonably be asked, what the local police are doing to allow such a state of things to exist? Surely the police know what is going on.

SHIPPING DISASTER IN HAINAN STRAITS.

S.S. "CLARA" SUNK.

The master of the s.s. *Hanoi*, which has arrived in the Harbour, reports having picked up part of the crew and passengers of the German steamer *Clara* (Messrs. Jensen & Co.) on the 29th ult., in Hainan Straits. It transpires that the *Clara* went ashore on the North bank in hazy weather. The crew and passengers took to the boats, leaving the master, the chief and second engineers, and four European passengers on board. It was supposed that those remaining on the steamer also took to the boats before the stranded vessel was driven off the bank by the wash of the seas and sunk in deep water, as ultimately happened. Their fate meantime, however, was surrounded with uncertainty. Telegraphic communication with Hoihow is interrupted.

The report of Mr. Merlees, master of the *Hanoi*, upon the occurrence, is as follows:—"I beg to state that, when I was steaming out the middle channel in Hainan Straits on the 29th between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., three boats' crews were picked up belonging to the German steamer *Clara*. At noon two rafts were sighted; picked up Chinese passengers from same. Was told by the second officer Mr. Mehlhose, who was in the first boat picked up that the ship had struck the North bank at 8 p.m. on the 28th. I then went in search of the wreck, approaching the bank as close as possible for safety, without finding any trace of her, weather at the time being hazy with drizzling rain. At 2.15 p.m. set course for Hongkong. Crew and passengers picked up as follows:—Mr. Mehlhose, second officer; Mr. Frenzel, third engineer; 22 Chinese crew, and 20 Chinese passengers. The second officer informed me that he passed the chief officer's boat at 4.30 a.m. containing himself and 12 Chinese passengers; also mentioned that the captain and two engineers and four European passengers were on board when they left the steamer."

The master is Mr. Ulderup and the chief engineer Mr. Wittmack. The third engineer joined the ship at Haiphong and his name is not known to the agents here. Three of the missing European passengers came from Haiphong and one from Hoihow.

The *Clara* was built in 1882 at Kiel and has been engaged in the coasting trade here for about 16 years.

LATER NEWS.

The Douglas steamer *Thales* (Captain Robson), which arrived in the Harbour on Thursday from Pakhoi and Hoihow, brings later and happier news regarding those officers and passengers who were left on the steamer *Clara* after she stranded. The *Thales* reports that according to news emanating from Chinese sources in Hoihow, the master of the wrecked steamer, Mr. Ulderup, and the four missing passengers arrived in an open boat at Hoihow on New Year's Eve, utterly exhausted and with hands blistered by the long pull. The passengers are Frenchmen. Nothing is said, however, regarding the two engineers who were at first reported to have remained on board with the master and the four passengers, and it seems probable that they are in the chief officer's boat, which is still missing. The Chinese cruiser *Lukin*, when the *Thales* left Hoihow on the New Year's Day, had just returned from an unsuccessful cruise in search of the missing boat.

With reference to the paragraph in our issue of the 30th ult., which stated that the Chinese Six Companies of San Francisco are making strenuous efforts to prevent the re-enactment of the U.S. Exclusion Law, news comes from that city that agencies are already being formed in Hongkong for the transportation of coolies to America in the event of the law being allowed to lapse. The leading Chinese in the Colony disclaim all knowledge of such organisations being formed. There are at present in existence, however, emigration and brokers' agencies which could supply any number of coolies which might be required.

CHINA SQUADRON HEAVY GUN CHALLENGE TROPHY.

We hear from a reliable, though unofficial, quarter that the China Squadron Heavy Gun Challenge Trophy arrived from England on the *Cressy* for presentation to H.M.S. *Terrible*, which beat the rest of the Navy in the competition for it. Strange to say, however, the naval authorities here state that they have no cognisance of the arrival of the Trophy, the obvious intention being to send it on board the successful ship without any formality, as if it were a parcel of provisions. Should such turn out to be the case, there will be no two opinions that such a line of conduct is a mistaken policy, considered in any aspect. It was confidently hoped that the new Commander-in-Chief would grace the ceremony of the presentation with his presence and speech; for the importance of the competition for which the Trophy was offered cannot be over-emphasised, and all honour should be done to that vessel of His Britannic Majesty which carries off the palm in such an all-important department of the practice of warfare as straight shooting. The ship which can get in the most hits per gun per minute is obviously of the greatest strategic value in a squadron. One *Terrible* that can be relied upon to hit an opponent in a like manner as this ship has done a prize-firing target for two successive years, is at present equivalent to two—if not, in some cases, three—other cruisers in the fleet. Such firing has been described as phenomenal—a term which is a misnomer; it is simply the outcome of consistent training and a feat apparently of easy accomplishment in any other ship similarly trained with similar guns.

Lord Selborne, the present First Lord of the Admiralty, recently stated—"What would win would be the best disciplined, most courageous, most self-reliant, and most tenacious officers and men, led by the most capable admiral." But he evidently forgot, or did not know, that all those qualities would become nought unless the fleet guns can shoot straight; and not only straight but rapidly also; a combination essential to success. The Navy primarily exists to protect the Empire from the foe, and secondarily to guard our commerce. We in China, at any rate, shall not consider ourselves sufficiently secure until the Squadron have emulated the *Terrible's* performance: not a difficult or very supreme effort if the gun crews get fair play. It is indeed a healthy sign that our admirals and captains—the Trophy was purchased by Admiral Seymour and the Captains of the China Squadron—are instituting prizes for good shooting instead of awarding them for the cleanest guns. Quite lately it was announced that the Kaiser had instituted a similar trophy for competition amongst the German Asiatic Squadron.

If our surmise is correct that the Trophy is simply to be dumped on board the *Terrible* on her arrival here—she is expected on the 4th or 5th inst.—we hope the Commander-in-Chief will revise the decision which has been come to and that it will be presented with all the pomp and circumstance which the occasion calls for. It is of paramount importance that the existence of the Trophy should not be allowed to be forgotten. Were the Commander-in-Chief to present the Trophy by his own hands it would not only be a graceful act, but it would serve to show the importance he himself attaches to straight shooting and to engender that keen and healthy rivalry which ought to exist among the Squadron for the possession of such an enviable distinction as that which belongs to the ship whose crew have proved themselves superior to all in the matter of straight shooting.

A New York correspondent states that the Atlantic passenger pool is said to have broken down. The English lines say that the Germans began the trouble by giving superior accommodation below the agreed schedule. Hence the Cunard fixed a minimum rate on its crack boats of \$50. The North German Lloyd and Hamburg announce a cut of \$10. The White Star is expected shortly to announce a \$50 rate on the *Oceanic*, being, like the Cunard reduction, \$10 below the previous minimum.

S. PETER'S CHURCH AND MISSION.

The annual meeting of the S. Peter's Church and Mission was held in the Kowloon Institute on the 30th ult. Before the business was proceeded with, the company sat down to a substantial tea. After tea an adjournment was made to the concert room, which was prettily decorated with flags, &c., and was crowded to the doors with sailors and soldiers as well as a good number of clerical and lay friends of the Mission. The Right Rev. J. C. Hoare, D.D., Bishop of Victoria, took the chair at 7.45, being accompanied on the platform by the Rev. E. J. Hardy, Rev. W. Banister, Rev. E. H. Good, Rev. T. Wright, Rev. G. A. Bunbury, Rev. C. E. L. Cowan, Rev. J. D. Dathan, Rev. J. C. Leishman, Rev. C. J. Harper, Rev. Nichols, U.S.A., Capt. Brown, and the choir. At intervals during the evening carols were sung very pleasingly by the augmented choir of the Mission, under the direction of Mr. H. Sykes (hon. organist) and Mr. Sheffield. The report of the committee for the year 1900 was read by the junior chaplain (Rev. T. Wright) from which we take the following extracts:—"The visitation of ships has been carried on vigorously, more than two thousand five hundred visits having been paid to merchant ships and warships. Literature and scriptures have been freely distributed and many words in season have been spoken by the chaplains and workers. . . . Owing to the smaller number of sailing ships in port the Sailors' Home has not been so well filled as in past years and in consequence the opportunities for work amongst the men in residence have been fewer, and the attendances at daily morning prayer smaller than in the past year. On the other hand owing to the fact that during the absence of the Rev. R. F. Cobbold the Chaplains have taken services in H. M. Gaol and visited the prisoners in their cells many other opportunities for reaching seagoing men have been afforded.

Under the management of Mr. Wilcockson the Kowloon Institute has continued its usefulness and has this year been used by a larger number of seamen than in any previous year. . . . The "Star" Coffee House has this year suffered through the dishonesty of its manager, Mr. McPherson, who absconded taking with him nearly one hundred and fifty dollars. A smaller amount has this year been received in subscriptions to the "Star" and in consequence of this and the loss above referred to the deficit balance is somewhat larger than in the past year. The committee would take this opportunity to thank the subscribers to the funds for their continued kind help, and would once more appeal most earnestly to their friends in Hongkong for an increase in the number of annual subscriptions that the funds may be put upon a less precarious base. They record with thankfulness an increase in the amount of subscriptions from ships and would tender special thanks to the members of the Cathedral choir, who by means of the concerts which they organised added to the funds the handsome sum of nearly four hundred dollars."

At the conclusion of the report, the Bishop in an humorous speech complimented the Mission on its very successful year's work, and expressed the greatest admiration of the Chaplains for their skill in "roping in" such a variety of contributors to the work. The Revs. E. J. Hardy and W. Banister also congratulated the Mission on the noble work it was doing among the seamen, and wished it increased prosperity during the coming year.

Mrs. Mudie, who received a splendid reception from the company, sang "Mary of Argyll," and in response to an uproarious encore "My heart is sair for somebody." Later on in the evening she also gave "Oh, whistle an' I'll come tae ye, my lad," with "Comin' thro' the rye" as an encore. Messrs. G. W. Coster and F. Whittick submitted "The Star of Bethlehem" and "The Good Shepherd" respectively, and were accorded a good reception. A very enjoyable evening terminated with votes of thanks to the ladies (proposed by Capt. Brown and seconded by the Rev. J. H. France) and to the chairman and the choir.

A bureau of cold storage and ice-plant has been created by the Civil Commission at Manila.

MASONIC AFFAIRS.

On Friday evening, 27th ult., the Deputy District Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, with the District Grand Lodge Officers, attended at the Masonic Hall for the purpose of installing Bro. J. J. Bryan as Worshipful Master of Zetland Lodge. Wor. Bro. Bryan, after being duly installed in the chair, appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Immediate Past Master, Wor. Bro. W. J. Tatcher; Senior Warden, Bro. B. Brotherton Harker; Junior Warden, Bro. J. W. Graham; Chaplain, Bro. Lev. T. Wright; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. G. J. Sayer; Secretary, Bro. E. Ralphs; Senior Deacon, Bro. H. Sykes; Junior Deacon, Bro. W. H. Pincell; Director of Ceremonies, Bro. C. Nieriker; Organist, Bro. C. W. Marshall; Steward, Bro. A. H. Skelton, Inner Guard, Bro. G. A. Diss; Tyler, Bro. J. Marshall.

The brethren then adjourned to the Lower Hall, where the banquet took place. The usual patriotic and Masonic toasts were given, and the rest of the evening devoted to conviviality and music. Among those who contributed largely to the musical part of the programme were Messrs. Ward, Galluzzi, Grimbly, Mirow, Goldring, and Terrill.

At the annual meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China held on Saturday evening, 28th ult., the Deputy District Grand Master, Wor. Brother E. C. Ray, presided, and appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—

District Senior Grand Warden, G. J. W. King; District Junior Grand Warden, F. B. Smith; District Grand Chaplain, F. W. Clark; District Grand Treasurer, F. W. Edwards; District Grand Registrar, G. Percy Jr; District Grand President Board of Gen'l. Insp., D. Macdonald; District Grand Secretary, A. O'D. Gourdin; District Senior Grand Deacon, J. G. Gotz; District Junior Grand Deacon, W. J. Tatcher; District Grand Superintendent of Works, J. J. Bryan; District Grand Director of Ceremonies, W. H. Wickham; District Assistant Grand Director of Cers., R. C. Edwards; District Grand Sword Bearer, Alex. Cumming; District Grand Standard Bearer, W. M. Foochow Lodge; District Grand Standard Bearer, E. A. Stanton; District Grand Organist, A. G. Ward; District Grand Pursuivant, G. G. Barnett; District Assistant Grand Pursuivant, B. B. Harker; District Grand Steward, E. H. Ray; District Grand Steward, A. W. Bewley; District Grand Steward, H. W. Wolfe; District Grand Steward, A. H. Heyland; District Grand Steward, S. W. Corinthian Lodge; District Grand Steward, S. W. Foochow; District Grand Tyler, James Marshall. Unofficial Members, Wor. Bro. W. L. Ford, Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson.

KOWLOON DOCK DANCE.

The annual dance of the Kowloon Dock staff was given as usual on Hogmanay night and proved a great success. The dance was held in the new drawing loft, a spacious apartment which easily takes rank as the best and biggest dancing hall in the Colony. There was no lack of decorations. The room was gay with colour, relieved with greenery. For this part of the work thanks are due to Messrs. G. Patton, S. Wilson, Graham, Ewing and W. Stewart. Music was supplied by the band of the Welsh Fusiliers. The company numbered 260. Dancing commenced about 9 o'clock and was continued with great spirit until an early hour on New Year's morning. The New Year arrived while supper was being served and was ushered in in the old-fashioned Scotch way, mutual wishes for health and prosperity being exchanged and "Auld Langsyne" sung. Mr. W. B. Dixon presided and was supported by Messrs. W. Wilson, W. C. Jack, H. Smith, A. Millar, T. Skinner, D. MacDonald, of Messrs. Kinghorn and MacDonald, E. C. Wilkes, R. V. Rutter, S. Wilson, D. McDonald, and W. Stewart, who as secretary carried out all the arrangements to the satisfaction of every one. The supper was served in the new reading and recreation room, which adjoins the hall. After the celebration of the advent of 1902, the

Chairman made a short speech, retrospective of the progress made by the Dock Company during the past year and wishing it and the assembly continued success in the present. Mr. W. Wilson proposed the health of the chairman, a toast which was enthusiastically honoured. The Chairman then formally declared the reading room opened and presented it to Mr. Jack as chairman of the staff, wishing him at the same time long life and prosperity. Mr. Jack thanked the Chairman very heartily on behalf of the employers for the gift of the reading room. Dancing was afterwards resumed.

CHRISTMAS AT WEIHAIWEI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

In typical Xmassy weather the festive season has been fully appreciated in this Anglo-Chinese colony. To Britons born, snow and ice are natural elements that are closely associated with, and indeed welcomed at, this period of the year. The advent of snow, followed by severe frost, enabled the pastimes of tobogganing and skating to be freely indulged in by a numerous clientele. It also brought to the front numerous sleigh inventors who had hitherto hidden their inventive talents under a bushel; numerous appliances; ranging from the scientifically constructed models of the venturesome senior officers, to the unscientific candle-box pattern of the volatile middies, being created. Twelve degrees below freezing point demands exceptional physical activity to keep one's body from becoming frozen meat, so the aforementioned sports, mingled with hockey and football, materially assisted to cheat nature's refrigerator of vicims - or carcasses.

On the 2nd, the *Argonaut* (Captain G. H. Cherry) arrived in harbour to relieve the *Terrible*, an arrangement quite in keeping with the dignity of this strategic place, which would now seem lost without its four funnelled depot ship and despatch vessel. The *Terrible*, however, will be missed in many ways; not a few of the improvements on the island of Linkungtao having been due the labours of an energetic crew. The latest innovation, that of the transformation of a disused Chinese temple into a tea-house and recreation club for naval seamen, was an undertaking that has been highly successful and fully appreciated. The thanks of both the British and Chinese communities are especially due to Lieut. Bogle, R.N., who has spent much labour in renovating the old Chinese theatre and repainting the allegorical figures, so that this conspicuous building with its freshly gilded roof is now one of the show places of the island.

The large emporium—and shops of lesser importance in Seymour Street having provided a good selection of seasonal goods, neither the naval, military, nor civilian population could reasonably complain of not being amply catered for. The Chinese vendors had quite excelled all previous efforts satisfactorily to purvey for their British customers. No want could not be supplied, or desire satisfied.

Xmas morn opened with a keen wind that penetrated almost through the body, in spite of the layers of clothing with which one adorns oneself as a defence against the attack of a searching northern wind. However, Siberian winds did not prevent a large attendance on the recreation ground during the forenoon to witness a Squad on League match between the *Argonauts* and *Terribles*; two teams that, up to the present, stand very well for the Challenge shield. The play was fast, and the combination of both teams exceedingly good, a remarkable feature of the match being that the referee's whistle was not once brought into use, although vigorous skirmishing near both goals frequently took place. The "Argos," who were the favourites before the match, were fortunate enough to score a goal a few minutes before the game finished, thus adding two more points to their already high percentage. Immediately the match ceased, some hundreds of bluejackets and marines swiftly betook themselves to the sampans and made for their ships, the excitement of the game and sharp crisp weather combined having apparently invested each with an abnormal appetite that would take a considerable Xmas dinner to appease.

Proceeding on board the *Terrible*, which ship like the others was dressed almost from truck to

keelson with huge bunches of mistletoe, a pleasing sight met the visitor. A happy inspiration had caused an invite to be sent to the *Argonaut* for some 250 of her crew to dine with the *Terribles* to-day—a unique compliment at Christmastide—so that something like 1,000 men had now assembled to witness the customary parade. Following in the wake of Captain Percy Scott and the ship's officers, who were preceded by the ship's band vigorously playing the "Roast beef of Old England" (which article, by-the-bye, was most conspicuous by its entire absence, either spurious or otherwise) a tour of the spacious decks was made. To a civilian, the scene 'tween decks, which had been richly festooned with flags in Arcadian fashion, was truly enchanting. Here again mistletoe was profusely used for decorative purposes, also for encircling favourite photos of various types of the gentler sex, from the gay geisha-girls of Japan to the merry maids of old England. Keen rivalry in mess decorations and in the cookery art was everywhere in evidence. Except the professional chef, no one can approach the handy-man at turning out an appetizing feed, or at understanding the many mystic methods of skilled cookery. It is part of his training. Mottoes, significant and humorous, met the eye from every conspicuous place. "Beware of our neighbours," appropriately posted up one mess, who had the "Robbers' Retreat" next door to them; and "Be not afraid, our food has been analyzed," advertised another mess. "Lost. Paying off orders" and "Found. A paying off pennant" were mottoes that needed little explanation. From proffered plates, held by representatives in each mess, the Captain, officers, and guests, were invited to partake of delectable delicacies; an elephant's stomach capacity being absolutely necessary to conceal everything that custom required should be accepted. In the petty officers' mess a metachanically worked dummy did the honours, but, woe betide anyone who partook of its hospitality for each tempting morsel was highly charged with electricity, and usually enforced an uncomplimentary Xmas greeting from the unwary guest. The ship's galley might easily have been mistaken for one of Gatti's Grills in the Strand. Here were geese, hares, pheasants, hams, and plum puddings galore, only awaiting the "Rounds" to pass by before receiving the *coup-de-grace* from ten hundred pairs of knives and forks. Deserving of special mention was the Mutescopic Tableau that was neatly prepared and executed by the Chief Petty Officers' Mess. Standing in a recess made up of flags was a carved wooden model of the *Terrible*, performing target practice at sea; so arranged that, while a suppositions run was being made, twelve shots were fired at a miniature target and a "possible" obtained. Needless scarcely to add, this piece of ingenuity so effectively manipulated, caused considerable fun and indeed no little wonderment. The final act that ended the ceremonial parade was the presentation of a lower-deck address, neatly written on a large blackboard with chalk as follows:—

Season's Greetings.

To the Captain and officers from ship's Company:—
Greetings true from all the crew—dissidents there are none,
Also to Mrs. Percy Scott, and your bonny little son.
To the Commander and all officers, sincere welcome is extended;
But Captain Scott, have "They" forgot, it's time our commission ended?—
Up at the main we look in vain to see if the pennant has descended.
Nigh four years ago "They" must well know—it admits of no denials—
That up and down the Channel for months, the ship ran severe steam trials.
And afterwards, we with our guns bid good-bye to kin and kith;
At Colenso, Spion Kop, Vaal Krantz, at Pieter's Hill and Ladysmith,
Naval traditions we did uphold: and White relieved forthwith.
Queen Victoria and their Lordships cabled a gracious congratulation,
Also telegraphic orders came—to sail for the China Station.

Again "They" knew, our guns and crew were landed with expedition,
And with straight and rapid shooting sent the Boxers to perdition.
After all our arduous service, Sir, will you chalk down a reply
As to when we may expect "Relief"—
and to China say "Good-Bye?"

Taking the piece of suspended chalk, "I cannot tell you what I do not know myself," was the characteristic reply the Captain wrote; a sentence that did not fulfil the high hopes and eager expectations of the *Terribles*, who imagined the Captain possessed the secret, and might disclose it on such an occasion as this. A brief verbal reply, inspiring and humorous, followed the perusal of the address, which, from its reception, was a sort of compensation for the written answer accorded the main question. Ringing cheers for the Captain, Commander and officers of both the *Terrible* and *Argonaut* completed the "Rounds," after which pleasant ramble amidst "Druryolans" scenes dinner was served. Such a scene of spontaneous enthusiasm speaks well for the *esprit de corps* that certainly exists in the "Black Sea Cat's" successor on the Navy List. In the military and marine barracks, and naval mess on shore, the day was also appropriately observed, a gathering of the clans and impromptu concerts taking place in the evening.

Thus was Xmas Day at Weihaiwei right royally observed.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 30th December.

NEW VICEROY FOR CANTON.

Official changes have been sanctioned by the court, but it is not certain when they are to come into effect. The Viceroy's ill health and his wish to retire have been met by the appointment of the Viceroy of Szechuen to this city. He is a Manchu named Fui, but has not shown very pronounced political opinions. The Governor has also received a promotion, not altogether to the sorrow of the inhabitants, and is to be succeeded by the Treasurer of Chihli province.

MEETING THE INDEMNITY.

To help provide the indemnity a proclamation has just appeared ordering the increase of the *lekin* duties on certain articles. The duties on opium, tea, sugar, wine, and tobacco have been gradually raised at various times until they reached the sum of 18 taels 2 mace per 100 catties. From this they are again increased to 23 taels 6 mace and 6 candareens. It would be idle to speculate on the amount that this will produce, but to raise the large share of the indemnity required from the province the officials will probably have to resort to still further means. Fortunately for them they are a separate taxing authority with power, though somewhat limited, to enforce their demands. But as they have to contend with rising prices, a steady rise in the value of copper and fall in the exchange of cash, and a people who resent the injustice of paying for the follies of North China, it will tax all their ingenuity to obtain the sum required.

THE CANTON RAILWAY.

The chief topic in this city is the arrival of the head of the company which has secured the railway concession, and speculations as to where work will be actually begun. It is proposed to begin with a sort of experimental line, some three miles long, running from the wharf eastwards. According to native newspapers work will be begun about the Chinese New Year.

THE FA YUN MINING REPORT.

The report of the commissioners sent to enquire into the prospects of successful mining at Fa Yun has just been published. The commissioners are not in favour of working the mines of silver and tin which are found there, as they are of opinion that the expenses would be too heavy. They recommend rather the opening up of the coal-mines, pointing out that although the coal is not of very good quality it is good enough for the use of local steamers, while the nearness of the mines will give it an advantage which should enable it to compete successfully with any seaborne coal. Nothing has as yet been decided.

A SCHOOL FOR ENGLISH.

Subscriptions are being invited for the founding of an English School in Honam. The company which is undertaking it has already one foundation in Hongkong, but wishes to establish another here. The Viceroy has been approached with a request that he would allow himself to be named as president of it, but has declined to do so.

FRENCH ENTERPRISE.

According to a paragraph in a native newspaper, a new hospital has been opened by the French authorities. It is situated on the bank of the river, in a central position, and is to give free treatment to Chinese patients. A shop in the city at present closed has a notice to the effect that it will shortly be re-opened under French patronage for the sale of books translated from that language.

A LAUNCH INSPECTOR.

An inspector has been secured by the Imperial Customs to undertake the duty of overhauling the machinery and hulls of the many steam launches that ply for hire in the neighbourhood and of certifying them as sea-worthy. He has now arrived and taken up his duties.

PRISONERS AT WORK.

A gaol delivery was held monthly by the Nam Hoi and Pun Yu magistrates, and some hundred prisoners were lodged in the newly built reformatory on the hill of the Goddess of Mercy. They will be engaged in weaving cloth and making shoes, and inspectors have been engaged for them. Those who do not work will be confined in the cells which are provided within the building. They are paid for their work by the piece and out of every dollar they earn 40 cents is stopped as a tuition fee, and 35 cents towards the expenses of their food. The remaining 25 cents accumulates until their discharge, when it is handed over to them to keep them until they can find further employment.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 24th December.

THE KIALAT CLUB DANCE.

The ball given by the members of the above Club took place on Friday last. In spite of the unpleasant and inclement state of the weather, the dance was largely attended and, as had been anticipated, was a success in every respect.

STEAMER STRANDED.

The s.s. *Peleus* (Capt. Nicholson) carrying a cargo of kerosene oil in bulk from Hongkong to this port and consigned to Messrs. Bradley & Co., is badly ashore below Breaker Point. The *Peleus* being of very shallow draught, has to keep close to the land when coming up the coast; experiencing a strong N. E. gale, she became unmanageable and was driven on to a sandbank, where she lies at present.

FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 21st December:—

H.I.G.M. cruiser *Geier* left the Pagoda Anchorage on Tuesday, the 17th instant, for Kiaochau direct, and the best wishes of this community went with her.

The rainfall yesterday came as a great boon and we could well have done with two or three days of it, since all the ponds and wells have been running dry after nearly five months drought.

The rumours that the officials are experiencing considerable difficulty in collecting the new taxes continue unabated. This week it is reported that the Min Magistrate, who found it necessary to go to a certain district in person on this business, met with most unpleasant treatment. Of course the head of the district was severely punished for this, but the story goes to show how strong the resistance to this new taxation must be when the people dare to insult so high an official. The reports of the extraordinary number of literary degrees obtained by bribery, are, if true, scandalous. It is the last chance H.E. the Literary Chancellor will have of indulging in this sort of thing, but in the meantime there has been a great deal of talk about it, and natural indignation expressed in certain quarters.

The ball held at the Club on Monday last, under the auspices of the Fohkien Race Club, was undoubtedly the most successful there has been for some years. Nearly a hundred were present, including several officers in uniform from H.I.G.M.'s *Geier*, then in port. The band from that ship, whose services were most graciously placed at the disposal of the hosts for the evening, did much indeed towards enhancing the attractions of the entertainment and the dancing was kept up with a grand swing in consequence.

The visits of professional vocalists to Foo-chow are so few and far between that when they are made there is a general feeling of satisfaction running through the community. Substantial proof of this was given on Thursday by the large attendance at the Club in response to Madame Freed's announcement that she was giving a concert on that evening; the chance of hearing good singing and instrumental music had occurred, and was eagerly availed of. Madame Freed was ably assisted by ladies and gentlemen of the community, and her concert in every way was a grand success.

PEKING.

Peking, 13th December.

VICEROY YUAN SHI-KAI

has returned to Paoingfu. He failed to persuade the Ministers to abandon the Provisional Government. It is a disappointment to him. He now intends to meet the Court on its way.

EDUCATION.

In the educational line, it should be mentioned that Professor Gieter, of the Imperial University has opened up a French class in the university buildings, following the example of Professor Allardye in English.

IS IT AN OVERSIGHT?

In the list of officials honoured for their services in international relations there is no mention of Hu Yu-fen, although he has done more work, and more unpleasant too, than several who are remembered.

A STREET NUISANCE.

There is considerable annoyance to both Chinese and foreigners, other than the Legation folks, in passing with carts, and especially loaded carts along the streets. No one knows what street to take, for one is as objectionable as another. The main trouble is at the west end, where the American guard is stationed. Even Sir Robert Hart is pestered.

SHANGHAI STATEMENTS CORRECTED.

There are two or three things of general statement in Shanghai which need correction. One is that a former President of a Board in 1898, who was banished for helping reform, Li Tuan-fen, is on his way back to Peking. So far as we know here he is dead. Another statement is that Hsu Ching-ch'eng and Yuan Ch'ang changed the wording of an edict in June 1900 from "kill foreigners" to "protect foreigners." There is no proof of this report here. Neither of them was in the Cabinet, and so could not change the wording without it being known to others. They argued for peace and ridiculed the Boxers, and were punished in consequence. It is also often said that Yang Lu is a nephew of the Empress Dowager. We can find no support for this statement. There is no relationship beyond the fact that both are Manchus.

THE NEXT HEIR APPARENT.

There is a little quiet speculation as to the next Heir-apparent. There is some talk of Prince Chun, the younger brother of the present Emperor. This is hardly likely, as he is of the generation of the Emperor Kwang Hsi, and the Emperor T'ung Chih. Neither of these would be any nearer having a descendant to offer worship and sacrifice. As P'u Chun was chosen because he was of the next generation, so the new choice will continue in the same generation. Still it is hardly likely that any son of the brothers of Prince Yuan will be chosen. The family of the once Fifth Prince, or Prince Tuan, is notoriously reactionary. Who, then is the man? Already in October, it was telegraphed that a Lu Pei-tze was chosen. This may be possible. Lu Pei-tze or Lu Pei-lé, i.e., Prince P'u Lun, is a grandson of an older brother of Emperor Hsien Feng, Prince Tun, Prince Kung and Prince Chun—4th, 5th, 6th and 7th sons of Emperor Tao Kuang. Prince Lun has been with the

Court and is acceptable to the Empress Dowager. He has a younger brother, P'u T'ung, who has also been mentioned, is nearly of the same age as the Emperor, and is more in sympathy with reform. The grandson of late Prince Kung, who is the present Prince Kung, has also been mentioned. He is a little over twenty, and of fairly good manners and good intentions, but of no marked ability. In case the present Prince Chun should have a son, there would be a possibility of choosing the infant, and having a Regency.—N.-C. Daily News.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE FUTILITY OF FUMIGATION IN HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th December.

Sir,—Will Dr. Clark, the Medical Officer of Health, be good enough to answer the following questions, which it was my intention to ask some weeks ago;

1. Is there a water famine in the Colony?
2. Is it a fact that many of the inhabitants have not been able to collect sufficient water for potable purposes, and is it true that certain citizens have been voicing their grievances in the local papers?
3. Such being the case, are the inhabitants of this Colony in a position to wash and cleanse, and keep their houses in a sanitary condition?
4. Under the circumstances, what is the present condition of the sewers and drains of the City?
5. Will not the foul and putrid animal and vegetable refuse, etc., in the sewers and drains produce poisonous gases and disease germs?
6. Are not gases a danger to the public health?
7. Are not such filthy and unkempt sewers and drains the breeding places of plague germs and other disease germs?
8. Are not these very sewers and drains the homes and feeding-places of the plague-inoculated rats?
9. Are these sewers flushed? If not, why not?
10. Are the beneficial results of fumigation assured, under existing conditions?
11. Is it practical to destroy the germs inside the houses and leave the sewers and drains—the breeding-places—untouched?
12. Is it not a fact that these houses get re-charged with poisonous gases and disease germs immediately they are reopened?
13. Is it not a fact, if such is the case, that fumigation without a plentiful water supply and a thorough flushing of the sewers and drains is utterly useless and a waste of the taxpayers money?—Yours, etc.,

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above company was held on the 28th ult. in the office, 14, Des Voeux Road. Mr. R. Shewan presided and there were also present Messrs. A. G. J. Somerville, A. G. Gordon, J. S. van Buren, N. A. Siebs, D. E. Brown, W. H. Potts, A. V. Apcar, S. Benjamin, A. Babington, H. P. White, D. Gillies, J. H. T. McMurtrie, Captain Farrow and Mr. Fung Wa Chun.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the object of this meeting is fully explained in the printed notice of it, which you have all received. The reason for our sending out notices in preference to advertising was that hitherto when we have advertised many shareholders in Manila and on the coast have complained that they never saw the advertisement; so to obviate this we have in this instance sent a notice to each shareholder. The reason for our raising this new capital is the necessity of paying off the balance of the cost of our two new boats *Zafiro* and *Rubi*. A great part of the money required has already been temporarily borrowed in London, but the repayments will commence at the end of January, and it is to meet these that we want more

capital. We are not asking for the whole \$500,000 at once; in fact, with one or two more years such as we have had lately we may never want the whole amount, and we have endeavoured to make the instalments due at such time and at such intervals as will be most convenient to you. As long as the issue is assured we can no doubt get temporary loans from our bankers, which would enable us if advisable to anticipate any further sudden drop in exchange by remitting the whole loan at once, and you must remember that every fall in exchange increases the dollar cost of the boats. We cannot build new steamers without money and if our earnings are all absorbed as capital we cannot go on paying dividends as well. The first of the new steamers, the *Zafiro*, arrived on 25th November, and I am glad to say that the necessity for such boats has been fully demonstrated and our action in building them entirely justified by her performances. She at once became the favourite boat on the line, leaving here full of passengers with every berth engaged and at all hands, from shippers, passengers, and agents, she has received the highest praise. Her sister ship the *Rubi* left Singapore on the 24th inst. They are exact duplicates of each other and I have no doubt the *Rubi* will prove equally successful. All the arrangements both for cargo and passengers are in the opinion of experts exceedingly well adapted for the special requirements of the Manila run, and the result reflects the greatest credit on the builders, Messrs. D. J. Dunlop & Co., and on our Marine Superintendent, Mr. A. G. Gordon, who designed the boats in the first instance and has since given his whole time to superintending their construction at home. I am quite sure that with such vessels we can more than hold our own on the line against anything that can be brought against us, and I feel that we can heartily congratulate ourselves on having acquired them. The past year on the whole has been a good one and business particularly of late has been very brisk with us; the passenger trade with the Philippines is increasing, and traffic doubtless will continue to increase with the gradual pacification of the islands and the attraction of capital thither, and although we are threatened with fresh opposition on the line we do not anticipate that it will gain much footing or seriously interfere with the earnings of our steamers. Before I proceed to put the resolutions stated in the notice of the meeting I take pleasure in informing you that Mr. J. S. van Buren of the Pacific Mail and O. & O. Companies has consented to join your Consulting Committee, a connection that you will doubtless agree with me should prove very valuable to this company.

Proceeding then to put the resolutions to the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN moved first—"That the capital of the company be increased from one million of dollars (its present capital) to one million five hundred thousand dollars by the creation of ten thousand new shares of fifty dollars each."

Captain FARROW seconded, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN moved the second resolution as follows:—"That the new shares shall be offered in the first instance to the persons who, on the 15th January, 1902, shall be registered as shareholders, in the proportion of one new share for every two of the present shares and that such offer shall be made by notice specifying the number of new shares to which the shareholder is entitled and limiting a time within which the offer if not accepted will be deemed to be declined. After the expiration of such time or on the receipt of an intimation from the shareholder to whom such notice is given that he declines to accept the shares offered, the General Managers may allot or otherwise dispose of all unaccepted shares to such persons on such terms and conditions and at such times as the General Managers shall think fit."

Mr. D. E. BROWN seconded, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then moved the third resolution:—"That each of the said new shares shall be paid for as follows:—The sum of five dollars on account thereof shall be paid on the 28th February, 1902, at such place as the General Managers shall appoint, the sum of ten dollars

further on account thereof shall be paid on the 31st May 1902 at such place as aforesaid, the sum of ten dollars further on account thereof shall be paid on the 31st December, 1902, at such place as aforesaid, and the balance shall be paid in such instalments (at intervals between the payment of each instalment of not less three months, and subject to notice being given in accordance with Article 51 of these Articles) and at such times and places as the General Managers shall appoint. Provided that the General Managers may, if they shall think fit so to do, extend the time beyond the dates above-mentioned for payment of any money for the time being unpaid on any or either of the said new shares."

Mr. W. H. Potts seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

This was all the business.

The confirmatory meeting will be held on 14th inst.

SPORTING AND OTHER NOTES.

There has been a good deal of discussion and some unpleasantness going on amongst the members of the Jockey Club as to the programme which has been formulated by the Stewards for the forthcoming race meeting; chiefly as to the races which have been reserved for last year's subscription griffins and the weights to be carried by them. Personally I have never thought that 3 or 4 lbs. an inch was sufficient to bring ponies of equal quality and unequal height together. The result of the meeting will be watched with interest in order that it may be seen whether or no 4 lbs per inch is a sufficient handicap.

Apart from the question alluded to above, it is sincerely to be hoped that shortly after the forthcoming races a meeting of the Club will be held, so that questions which are fresh in everyone's minds may be discussed, and moreover that the programme for next year's race meeting may, if possible, be settled at once. At all events it is only fair that owners who intend to keep ponies of this year over till next year should know what they are keeping them for. It would also give everyone an equal chance of acquiring in the meantime a good pony for any particular race.

I saw under the heading "Training Notes" by Equinus in your contemporary, *The China Mail*, some advice there given to young riders, to the effect that they should be careful to avoid imitating the "Tod Sloan" style of riding, as our course was not adapted to the Tod Sloan style, but should sit well back, especially rounding the turns. I am afraid I am entirely at variance with Equinus on this point—I do not think it possible or advisable for a man of ordinary build to attempt to ride small ponies crouched up on the withers, but there is a great difference between that and sitting back on the pony's loins with your feet only just touching the irons. I believe quite a number of ponies have been lamed lately, one or two high up, and in my opinion the reason is that they were ridden in the style Equinus recommends and allowed to spawl and go any way they liked, instead of being held together by a man sitting forward with his leathers a bit shorter than if he was riding over country and helped round with the rider's legs and held well together.

One other point I don't agree with Equinus upon, and that is that *Black Rock* will win the Derby. I think *Lucky Jim* will beat him.

VETERAN.

At the monthly meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on the 21st November, it was reported that a memorial on the subject of the extension of the Burma-Shan-China Railway, Mandalay-Kunlon line, into South-west and Central China, approved by the committee of the East India and China Trade Section, and later by the council, was duly despatched to the Secretary of State for India in Council. Copies have also been sent to the Viceroy of India, the Indian and Burma Chambers of Commerce, and to all the Chambers of the United Kingdom, several of which had given their support.

CRICKET.

ARMY v. NAVY.

On the 28th ult. a match Army v. Navy was played on the Cricket Ground and resulted in a win for the Navy by 204 runs to 161. Franklin scored 57 and Mahon 55. For the Army Radcliffe and Dorehill had 36 and 30 respectively; while France-Hayhurst scored 26 by very pretty play. Score:—

NAVY.

First Innings.	
Mr. Digby, c coolie, b Preedy	1
Mr. Moore, b Preedy	10
Lieut. Reinold, c coolie, b Dorehill	10
Mr. Franklin, b France-Hayhurst	57
Lieut. Wood, b Preedy	16
Mr. Cornabe, c Fanshawe, b Waymouth	18
Lieut. Mahon, l.b.w., b Preedy	55
Mr. Neat, b Preedy	0
Mr. McKinley, c Buttanshaw, b Preedy	18
Mr. Harrison, not out	0
Mr. Broadbent, run out	9
Extras	10

Total 204

ARMY.

First Innings.	
Capt. Waymouth, b Mahon	3
Lt. France-Hayhurst, c Wood, b Reinold	26
Major Beresford-Ash, b Reinold	5
Capt. Radcliffe, c McKinley, b Broadbent	36
Major Dorehill, b McKinley	30
Lt. Fanshawe, b McKinley	10
Major Wynne, st Digby, b Franklin	0
Capt. Clapham, b Franklin	4
Capt. Rotherham, c Wood, b Franklin	19
Private Preedy, not out	15
Major Buttanshaw, c Cornabe, b McKinley	0
Extras	13

Total 161

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

NAVY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Dorehill	14	3	42	1
Preedy	23	3	68	6
Waymouth	16	4	36	1
Buttanshaw	2	—	8	—
Clapham	2	—	12	—
France-Hayhurst	4.3	—	28	1

ARMY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Neat	4	—	21	—
Mahon	7	—	19	1
Reinold	8	1	29	2
McKinley	11.5	4	35	3
Franklin	7	—	28	3
Broadbent	8	2	16	1

H.K.C.C. TEAM v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

The R. E. won an easy victory over the Club team on the Happy Valley ground on the 28th ult. Score:—

H.K.C.C.

D. Wood, b Meader	4
G. T. Wild, b Watts	0
B. E. Hanson, b Watts	3
W. R. Robertson, b Watts	0
H. B. Wheeler, b Watts	0
T. Brown, c Tillman, b Watts	0
C. T. Davies, c Jolly, b Meader	3
C. H. P. Hay, c and b Clarke	22
H. Rutherford, b Clarke	12
P. A. Cox, not out	8
C. P. Chater, run out	0
Extras	2

Total 54

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Clarke, b Wood	3
Jolly, c Wild, b Brown	26
Lilleywhite, c Brown, b Wood	1
Tillman, b Brown	47
Thornhill, b Hanson, b Brown	8
Turner, b Brown	3
Watts, c Robertson, b Brown	0
Meader, c Wheeler, b Davies	1
Woods, b Brown	5
Stevens, did not bat	—
Yeats, not out	0
Extras	8

Total 102

CLUB v. GARRISON.

This match, played on the 1st and 2nd inst., ended in an easy victory for the Club. Scores:—

THE GARRISON.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lt. Fanshawe, c Mackenzie, b Smith	62	st Hay, b Sercombe	33
Capt. Rotherham, c Hay, b Mackenzie	18	b Sercombe Smith	3
Capt. France-Hayhurst, c Ward, b S. Smith	22	run out	0
Capt. Cadogan, b Mackenzie	11	c Hooper, b Mackenzie	79
Major Beresford-Ash (capt.), l.b.w. b Smith	9		
Lt. Krickenbeek, b Franklin	37	c and b Mackenzie	9

Capt. Clapham, c Hay, b Franklin	21	b Dixoff	14
Pte. Preedy, not out	22	b Mackenzie	8
Edmondson, c Ward, b Franklin	1	not out	25
Cowie, b Reinold	8	b Mackenzie	9
Major Dorehill, c Mackenzie, c S. Smith	6	b Mackenzie	10
Extras	6	Extras	8

Total 223 Total (for 9 wickets) 199

THE CLUB.

C. P. Franklin, R.N., retired	100
T. Sercombe Smith, not out	156
A. Mackenzie, c sub., b Hayhurst	30
Lt. Wood, R.N., b Preedy	4
A. G. Ward, c Ash, b Hayhurst	4
J. Hooper, c Ash, b Hayhurst	9
W. E. Dixon, b Preedy	2
J. Brown, b Preedy	0
P. W. Goldring, b Preedy	0
C. H. P. Hay, b Hayhurst	18
H. A. Reinold, absent	—
Extras	14

Total 337

FOOTBALL.

NAVY v. H.K. F.C.

A match under Rugby rules was played on the 28th ult. at Happy Valley between the above teams, and the spectators were treated to one of the best displays that have been seen on the ground this season. The game was full of interest until the end and resulted in a draw—one try each. The Club try was scored by Jordan; the honour of that which stood at the credit of the Navy belonged to one of the three-quarters. On the whole, the Club forwards showed the superior form, especially in the second half, but the foot-work was bad in the scrimmages, the forwards frequently leaving the ball behind when wheeling; and the heeling out with rare exceptions was slovenly in the extreme. The Club halves were fairly good in tackling and combination, but the three-quarters, with the exception of Danby, who showed great speed at times, were poor. Smyth was suffering from a previous injury to his head. For the Navy, Gibson, forward, and the halves did well, while the three-quarters showed excellent combination of a kind not expected out here. McMurtrie, the best man on the field, played a great game both in the scrimmages and in the open, and Hallifax also put in some fine work in the open.

A. S. John's Cathedral Choir team will play two Association football matches v. teams of the H.K. F.C., on the 6th and 13th instant.

TAIKOO CLUB SPORTS.

The eleventh annual athletic meeting in connection with the Taikoo Club was held on New Year's Day on the new grounds, with which they have been presented by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. Their old ground was required by the firm for extending the sugar works and building a new dock. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire in giving these new grounds made a very generous recompense and have spared no expense in laying them out. A fine cycle track, 15 feet broad, six laps to the mile, and banked in the most approved fashion surrounds the ground. It is built of soil secured in the neighbourhood and gives every satisfaction to riders, but will require careful watching during the rains. Inside the track are the cricket and football pitches. The track is fenced with double wire and iron stanchions. An excellent programme of sports was submitted, competition in the various events being very keen as a rule. A grand stand, profusely decorated, was provided for the ladies, and swings and other games for the children. The whole arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr. B. H. Stephenson, Hon. Secretary, and those associated with him in the preparations for the meeting. When the programme of events had been exhausted the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. Poate, the wife of Mr. Walter Poate, of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire. These comprised silver cups, inkstands, flower bowls and other similar ware, also vases and Japanese curios etc.—a magnificent collection. At the close of this ceremony, Mr. A. R. Grieve made some remarks, in the course of which he thanked the people for so numerous availing themselves of the Club's

invitation to be present that day. He also thanked the competitors for coming forward so well and intimated that the more numerous the entries the more prizes the Club was prepared to offer. They would also make more open events. (Applause). He thanked the ladies on behalf of the Club, for gracing the sports with their presence, and particularly Mrs. Poate for the graceful part she had played. (Applause). In conclusion, Mr. Grieve asked the company to give three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Poate, and these were heartily given. A similar compliment was paid to Mr. A. R. Grieve, the popular Vice-President. The band of the 22nd Bombay Infantry played excellent music during the day.

The following were the office-bearers:—

President: Walter Poate, Esq.

Vice-President: A. R. Grieve, Esq.

Committee: Messrs. T. Grimshaw, J. Dickie.

W. Harwick, T. Shand, R. Aitken, R. H. Stephenson, A. Blake, B. Clarke, T. F. Foyan, J. Ferguson.

Judges: Mr. J. Rodger, and Mr. H. Summers.

Timekeepers: Mr. C. Lesbirel and Mr. E. Howell.

Clerks of the Course: Mr. W. M. Scott, and Mr. J. Ferguson.

Handicappers: Mr. A. McKirdy, M. J. Gloyd and Mr. F. W. White.

Stewards: Mr. J. Lochead, Mr. R. A. Ferguson and Mr. W. Smith.

Lap Scorer: Mr. W. Farmer.

Starter: Mr. F. E. Shuster.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. H. Stephenson.

Appended are the results:—

100 YARDS FLAT RACE, Handicap (Confined), 1st Prize presented by A. R. Grieve, Esq. 2nd Prize presented by W. Ramsay, Esq. (12 starters).

This event was run in two heats, the two leaders in each competing in the final, which resulted as follows:—

H. S. Kennett (10 yds.) ... 1

R. H. Stephenson (10 yds.) ... 2

Time—10 4/5 secs. Won by 15 inches.

TWO MILE BICYCLE RACE (Confined to subscribers). Open to Non-First Prize Winners. 1st Prize presented by Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. 2nd Prize presented by Tai Woo Loong. (3 starters).

Smith and Dickie tried hard for first honours, but the third man, Bain, was completely out-distanced.

W. Smith (100 yds.) ... 1

J. Dickie (130 yds.) ... 2

Time—5 35 1/2.

QUARTER MILE FLAT RACE (Handicap). Open to China Sugar Refinery, Docks, and V.R.C. 1st Prize presented by the Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation. 2nd Prize presented by John Blake, Esq. (12 starters).

A very good start was made and the competitors finished in a group.

F. D. Bain (40 yds.) ... 1

W. H. Sayer (30 yds.) ... 2

J. D. Danby (12 yds.) ... 3

Time—56 1/2 secs.

TWO MILE BICYCLE RACE. Open to all comers. 1st Prize presented by Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. 2nd Prize presented by Ah Wing. (5 starters).

Kershaw, who started from scratch, gave up after three laps. A good race ensued between the brothers Alves and Benning.

A. A. Alves (120 yds.) ... 1

A. E. Alves (130 yds.) ... 2

T. Benning (100 yds.) ... 3

220 YARDS FLAT RACE HANDICAP (CONFINED). Prize presented by Cosmopolitan Docks. (8 starters).

This was an excellent race between the first three men, the others being well tailed out at the finish.

R. H. Stephenson (30 yds.) ... 1

H. S. Kennett (25 yds.) ... 2

D. Currie (20 yds.) ... 3

Times—24 4/5 secs.

HIGH JUMP. Open to China Sugar Refinery, Docks, and V.R.C. Prize presented by W. Poate, Esq. (6 starters).

A well-contested event. Grey, the winner, did the side jump in very good style and, after the competition concluded, succeeded in beating his winning jump of 4 ft 7 ins. considerably, failing only when he reached the 5 feet lath.

T. C. Grey (4 ft. 7 ins.) ... 1

J. D. Danby (4 ft. 6 ins.) ... 2

ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE (CONFINED). 1st prize presented by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. 2nd prize presented by Ah Poi. (3 starters).

A very good race, only four lengths separating the first and third man at the tape.

B. Clarke (300 yards) ... 1

J. Dickie (250 yards) ... 2

Time, 2 mins. 26 2/5ths secs.

LONG JUMP (Confined). Post entries. Prize presented by W. M. Scott, Esq. (6 entries). Closely contested and won by about an inch.

G. H. Edwards (18 ft.) ... 1

J. D. Darby (17 ft. 11 ins.) ... 2

FIVE MILE BICYCLE RACE (Handicap). Open to all comers. 1st Prize presented by Kowloon Dock Staff. 2nd Prize presented by G. A. Buckland, Esq. 3rd Prize presented by Ah Kan. (4 starters).

This was looked upon as one of the chief items on the programme but was marred by a spill near the finish. At the start A. E. Alves took the lead, followed by Kershaw close up. A. A. Alves and Benning riding abreast brought up the rear. This order was maintained for about six laps when A. A. Alves shot ahead and got on even terms with Kershaw. This order was maintained till the 28th lap, when Benning slid up the outside course, and got up into second position, A. E. Alves still leading. Kershaw then commenced to put on pace and was passing the turn, when Benning secured the lead by slipping up the inside position, Alves being forced outside the six feet line. A collision then took place, both the Alves's and Kershaw coming to grief. The spill appeared to be the result of over-anxiety and want of judgment on the part of the rear riders, in their efforts to catch the leader. Fortunately, nobody was hurt seriously, though the younger Alves was thrown right out of the track.

T. Benning ... 1

Time—17.11 1/2

HALF MILE FLAT RACE (Handicap). Open to China Sugar Refinery, Docks, and V. R. C. 1st Prize presented by China Sugar Refinery Staff. 2nd Prize presented by Jack Ah Tai. (13 starters).

This ended in a win for the scratch man by five yards, about the same separating the second and third arrivals.

A. Humphreys (sc.) ... 1

H. A. Seth (25 yds.) ... 2

Time—2.23 2/5

TWO-MILE BICYCLE RACE. Open to gentlemen from 30 to 40 years of age. 1st Prize presented by The London and Lancashire Fire Assurance Co. 2nd Prize presented by the United Club. (5 starters).

T. Shand (sc.) ... 1

W. Smith (300 yds.) ... 2

POTATO RACE. Open to China Sugar Refinery, Docks, and V. R. C. Prize presented by Yuen Hop. (10 competitors).

This was an amusing event. Tata had hard luck. He finished first, but one of his potatoes had been picked up unwittingly by Kennett, one of the other competitors, who immediately dropped out of the running.

H. W. Sayer ... 1

J. P. Jordan ... 2

VETERAN'S RACE. One Mile Bicycle Handicap on Merit. Open to all comers over 40 years of age. Prize presented by John N. Harvie, Esq. (3 starters).

R. Aitken, the scratch man, was too severely handicapped, and dropped out after doing a round. Pereira made a scorching pace, but Eckhoff had him well in hand and, at the finish, flew past him amid loud cheering.

F. Eckhoff ... 1

A. M. Roza Pereira (220 yds.) ... 2

OBSTACLE RACE. Open to all comers, Prize presented by Victoria Recreation Club (9 starters).

First beneath a heavy tarpaulin, then climb a rope and over a cross bar, then pick up a pailful of water and carry it to where a number of sacks are lying, get into one of these and struggle home. These were the conditions and it can be imagined that some amusing scenes occurred.

A. Humphreys ... 1

VISITORS' RACE. One lap, confined to visitors only. Non-racing costume. Prize presented by the Taikoo Club. (11 starters).

R. Witchell ... 1

Sergt. Robinson, R.A. ... 2

CONSOLATION RACE. Prize presented by D. MacDonald, Esq. (6 entries).

This was a good race and a very close finish was witnessed.

J. P. Jordan ... 1

H. W. Bain ... 2

CHAMPION CUP (confined), decided on points. Prize presented by J. H. Scott, Esq.

B. Mark ... 1

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The 5th Club Race was sailed over Course 5, i.e., off Chunghue, W. Fairway Buoy, mark boat again, and home. The wind was light from the S.E. all day and very light near the finish. *Bonito* and *Alannah* were the only starters in the 1st class, and they got away side by side exactly as the gun went. For about four miles they ran neck and neck, when the wind dropped and *Alannah* jumped away. The mark was rounded by

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Alannah</i> ...	2	3	15
<i>Bonito</i> ...	2	6	21 1/2

On the beat to the Fairway Buoy, the breeze freshened and *Alannah* increased her lead. *Bonito* closed up slightly in the run back to the mark, but on turning to the wind *Alannah* began to leave *Bonito*, which was not going in form. The latter came home inside *Stoncutters* which did not pay her at all, there being little or no tide and less wind. Times at the finish:—

	H.	M.	S.	M.	Total
<i>Alannah</i> ...	4	46	30	10	32
<i>Bonito</i> ...	4	57	55	4	34

ONE DESIGN CLASS.

Erica got away first, *Min* close up, with *Colleen* and *Kathleen* in close attendance. This order was maintained for some distance down the harbour, when the wind increasing to a nice steady blow, *Colleen* took second place; *Erica* holding her lead rounded the mark boat 1 min. 10secs. ahead, very little dividing the others. On hauling in sheets for the beat to North Fairway Buoy, *Erica* and *Colleen* drew away from the others. *Erica* still holding her lead from *Colleen*, the others some way astern; in this order the boats again rounded the mark boat for the thrash home. Here *Colleen*, by keeping close in to the Coweichow shore, caught up a little on *Erica*, and when the boats met again off *Stoncutters*, it was either boat's race, now one gaining a little and then the other; eventually *Colleen* managed to cross *Erica*'s bow, and then kept her under her lee till nearing the line, when the two parted company. After a close race up the harbour, *Colleen* here got a nice little breeze which brought her over a winner by 62 seconds from her rival; *Min* was third, with *Kathleen* last but closer up than the times would show.

Times at the finish:—

	H.	M.	S.	M.
<i>Colleen</i> ...	4	56	8	20
<i>Erica</i> ...	4	57	10	8
<i>Min</i> ...	5	12	10	1
<i>Kathleen</i> ...	5	18	10	1

2ND CLASS.

The *Maid Marion* and *Chanticleer* came out for the first time this season, having recently changed hands and obtained permission to sail in the second class. There was not much between the boats in the run to the leeward mark, but in the turn to windward the *Maid Marion* soon showed she had not lost her superiority to her ancient rivals, and in a falling wind scored her first win.

The times at the finish were:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Maid Marion</i> ...	5	34	0
<i>Payne</i> ...	5	41	8
<i>Chanticleer</i> ...	5	42	5

Meteor did not finish. The time limit for the month of September being 5.30, the race has to be re-sailed.

CONDITIONS FOR COMMODORE'S CUPS.

A. for 1st Class and One Design class boats.

B. for 2nd Class boats.

1st Race, Saturday, 4th January.

Course—Rock one mile S.W. of Coweichow, Starboard, 14 miles.

2nd Race—Saturday, 18th January.

Course—Mark boat in Quarry Bay, Kowloon

Rock, Buoy on South end of shoal in Hunghom Bay, all to port, twice round. 12 miles.

Starts.

A. at 2 p.m.

B. at 2.10 p.m.

Time limit 6 p.m.

Marks as in Club races. Tie to be sailed off on date to be fixed by Committee.

Handicaps.

A. (for both races) *Alannah*, *Bonito* and *One Design* class boats allow *Iris* 2 mins, *Gloria* 5 mins.

B. as in Club races.

CLUB RACE.

Sunday, 5th January. Course 9. Handicap for 2nd class in Club races until further notice.

Mild Marion allows

Chanticleer ... 5 secs per mile.

Doreen ... 5 " " "

Meteor ... 10 " " "

Payne ... 50 " " "

Ladybird ... 50 " " "

Gdzelle ... 1 min. 40 secs.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The competition on the 28th ult. took the form of sweepstakes of 50 cents each with \$30 added; special handicapping, three prizes. There was also a gold cross for the highest nett scorer. There was a good attendance. The sweepstakes were won by Mr. Varcoe, who had the highly creditable nett score of 90, the best he ever made. Q. M. S. Wallace, and Col. Sgt. Wake were second and third respectively. The gold cross was won by Q. M. S. Wallace, who just managed to beat Col. Sgt. Wake by having a better range total at the long distance. The weather was unfavourable, an unsteady wind blowing across the range, with puffs of smoke and mist. The following were the best scores:—

	yds.	200	300	600	H. cap.	Tl.
* Mr. Varcoe	...	27	31	32	10	100
† Q. M. S. Wallace, R.E.	32	28	32	sc.	92	
* Col. Sgt. Wake, R.M.L.I.	28	34	30	—	92	
Q. M. S. West, R.E.	...	29	32	28	3	92
D. " Roberts	...	32	27	32	sc.	91
R. A. Collins	...	33	30	22	5	90
Sgt. Ins. Cross, R.M.L.I.	31	32	25	sc.	88	
Mr. Penning	...	31	26	25	6	88
Mr. Stackwood	...	32	30	25	sc.	87
H. Hobday, R.N.	...	30	26	27	—	83

* Winners of sweepstakes.

† Winner of gold cross.

LOCAL AND DISTRICT EVENTS, 1901.

JANUARY.

- 1st—Taikoo Sports at Quarry Bay—Parade of British troops at Shanghai in honour of Empress of India.
- 2nd—German Rear-Admiral Kirchhoff visited Hongkong.
- 5th—Highway robbery at Shauiwan.
- 7th—Conclusion of the case against Mr. H. F. Carmichael at the Magistracy; the defendant was discharged.
- 9th—Chinese tradesman murdered at Yaumati—Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Co. opened their season at the Theatre.
- 10th—Yeung Ku Wan, schoolmaster and reformer, murdered in his schoolroom in Gage Street.—Amoy Races, first day.
- 13th—S.S. *Powan* collided with a large junk near Capsumoon; one man killed.
- 14th—Performance of *Our Boys* at Shameen.
- 16th—Harmston Circus's opening night at Hongkong.
- 18th—Court-martial on H.M.S. *Barfleur* terminated, three of the accused being sentenced and one acquitted.—Arrival of H.M.S. *Glory* at Hongkong.—Dredger *Canton River* righted.—Russians handed over the Shanhaikwan railway to the Germans.
- 19th—First tie played in H.K.A.F.C. Challenge Shield.
- 20th—Census of the Colony taken.—Yacht Club regatta at Hongkong.
- 21st—Sir Claude MacDonald presented his credentials to the Emperor of Japan.
- 22nd—Death of H. M. Queen Victoria.
- 23rd—News of the Queen's death received

in Hongkong; first unofficial intimation reached the Colony at 8 a.m.

25th—81 minute guns fired at Hongkong in respect to the late Queen.—Accession salute to King Edward fired at 3.30 p.m.—Yuan Shikai, Governor of Shantung, posted a notice in Chefoo, inviting missionaries to return and ordering their protection.

27th—A party of four Europeans on a houseboat was attacked by pirates on the West River, near Canton; three were wounded, and one Chinese servant was killed.

28th—Capt. Lindberg, a Danish officer, shot his wife, Mr. Denning, and himself at Peking; the first and last named died.

29th—Proclamation of King Edward VII on the Cricket Ground, Hongkong.—Annual prize distribution at the Diocesan School.—General meeting of the Hongkong Benevolent Society.

30th—Former Viceroy's Yamen at Tientsin burnt down.

31st—Resolution of loyalty to King Edward VII passed by the Legislative Council.—D.S.O. bestowed on five naval officers at H.M. Naval Yard, Hongkong.—Annual General Meeting of the Engineers' Institute.

FEBRUARY.

1st—H.E. the Governor of Macao and suite arrived to attend the Memorial Service next day.

2nd—Memorial Services at St. John's Cathedral Hongkong, to the late Queen Victoria.

3rd—Fatal fire at 201, Queen's Road, resulting in four deaths.

5th—Murder of an ex-Supreme Court messenger by a Chinese widow.—Disastrous fire in Kowloon caused \$50,000 damages.

7th—Soldiers' and Sailors' Home (Wesleyan) opened in Arsenal Street.—H.E. Tao Mu, the new Viceroy, arrived in Canton.

9th—Annual Prize Distribution at Queen's College.—The third match between the H.K.C.C. and the Navy ended in a heavy defeat for the Club.

12th—Capt. Anderson delivered a lecture at the City Hall, under auspices of the Navy League.—Highway robbery from a Chinese contractor in the New Territory.—U. S. S. *Kentucky*, first American battleship to cross the Atlantic for foreign ports, visited Hongkong.—Hon. C. P. Chater's new Praya reclamation scheme finally approved in letter of Colonial Secretary.

13th—Six Shansi refugees reached Hankow under Chinese escort, after wonderful escapes.

16th—Three armed robberies reported in Hongkong.

19th—China New Year's Day.—Field-day of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.—Curfew Law revoked at Manila.

22nd—Loss of the *City of Rio de Janeiro* in San Francisco harbour, with Mr. Wildman, U. S. Consul-General at Hongkong, and family on board.—British resume possession of the Peking-Shanhaikwan Railway.

26th—Hongkong Race Meeting, first day.

MARCH.

2nd—Second overturning of the dredger *Canton River*, with the loss of two lives.

3rd—Attack on and robbery of an European in Bowen Road.

4th—Provisional Government's Bank at Tientsin burnt down.

5th—H.M.S. *Blenheim* reached Hongkong.—Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C., delivered a lecture before the Odd Volumes Society on "The Situation in the Far East."

9th—Public meeting at the City Hall to consider advisability of forming a private Nursing Institution for Hongkong.—Dallas Co. at the Theatre Royal.—Burial in the Peking Cemetery of the remains of the Legation defenders.

11th—H.M.S. *Ocean* arrived at Hongkong.—Annual General Meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

14th—Departure of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers on the *Chingtu* to relieve the Australian Naval Contingent at Peking.—Vitriol outrage on Mr. Reek on the Praya.

15th—Chinese mass meeting at Shanghai to protest against the Manchurian Convention.

16—Narrow escape from collision between British Indian and Russian troops at Tientsin over a railway-siding dispute.

19th—Enquiry into deaths at the overturning of the *Canton River*.—British and Russian

troops withdrawn from disputed land at Tientsin.

21st—Collision between *Glengyle* and *Hangchow* in Hongkong harbour.—R.A. Sports at Happy Valley.

23rd—Capture of Aguinaldo by Gen. Funtson.—Annual Inspection of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.—In the final tie for the Football Challenge Shield the Siege Train beat H. Co., R.W.F., by 6-0.—Murder of Rev. T. Stonehouse by Chinese brigands near Lofa, Chihli.

25th—Verdict of murder against Chinese widow in the Wanchai murder case.

27th—Serious outbreak at Victoria Gaol; Mr. Craig badly wounded.

28th—Mr. Conger, U.S. Minister at Peking, passed through Hongkong on way home.—*Canton River* righted once more.—Hongkong Schools' Sports.

30th—Oxford and Cambridge Dinner at Hongkong.

APRIL.

2nd—Mysterious death of Capt. Clemens on the s.s. *Kwanping* on the way to Shanghai.

3rd—Identical note issued by Russia to the Powers, abandoning the Manchurian Convention.

4th—Return of the Australian Naval Contingent to Hongkong on its way south.—Resignation of Dr. Hartigan announced at the Sanitary Board Meeting.

5th—Opening of the three-days' Easter Prize Meeting of the Hongkong Rifle Association.

8th—Fatal collision on the West River between the *Hing Fei* and *Sanchow*; over 60 Chinese drowned.

10th—Fight at Nagasaki between some *Barfleur* men and French soldiers and sailors; two of the former men killed.

15th—Abortive election for two vacancies on the Sanitary Board at Hongkong in place of Dr. Hartigan and Mr. J. McKie. No candidates presented themselves.

16th—Mr. Alexander Michie delivered a lecture before the Odd Volumes on "The Political Obstacles to Missionary Success in China."

17th—Part of the Imperial Winter Palace at Peking burnt down; Major-General von Schwarzkopf killed, and Count von Walderssee's asbestos house destroyed.—Public meeting at the City Hall, Hongkong, approved the new Praya Reclamation scheme.—European arrested on suspicion of being connected with the vitriol outrage at Hongkong.—Brough Company's opening night at the Theatre Royal.

19th—Garrison Athletic Meeting, first day.—Peace proclamation issued to the Filipinos by Aguinaldo.

20th—Death of Mr. P. G. von Mollendorf at Ningpo.

21st—Arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York at Singapore.

23rd—Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York left Singapore for Australia.—Concert at Kowloon Institute by S. John's Cathedral Choir.

24th—Mr. John Roberts, the billiard champion, at Hongkong.

26th—Wreck of the P. & O. steamer *Sobraon* on Tung Yung Island, near Foochow; all the passengers and crew were saved.

29th—Deputation of Cantonese medical students called on H. E. the Governor to thank him for assistance to Cantonese at Tientsin in 1900.

30th—H. E. the Governor paid a visit to the Governor of Macao, returning the latter's visit on the occasion of Queen Victoria's funeral.

MAY.

5th—Death of Mr. Howorth, of the Hongkong Dispensary, from plague.—Russian officer killed by German Police at Tientsin; the Russian was intoxicated.

6th—Meeting of jurors at the City Hall to consider the Special Jury question.

7th—Foundation stone laid of a new synagogue in Hongkong.—First day of the Shanghai Spring Race Meeting.

20th—George Allen's trial at the Criminal Sessions for complicity in the vitriol-throwing case ended in his acquittal.

24th—Beaconsfield Arcade closed by order of the Sanitary Board owing to plague cases.

28th—800 plague cases and 748 deaths to

date.—Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald departed from Tokyo on leave.

JUNE.

- 2nd—International fight in the Taku Road, Tientsin; one British and five French were wounded, and two Germans killed.
- 3rd—Plague cases at Hongkong for the year over 1,000; 13 European cases and 5 deaths.—Judgment delivered in the *Hangchow-Hengylo* collision case.
- 5th—General Chaffee relieved General McArthur in the Philippines.
- 6th—Arrival of H.M.S. *Talbot*.
- 7th—Plague case at Shanghai, imported from Hongkong.
- 8th—New Volunteer shooting range opened at Causeway Bay by H. E. the Governor.
- 10th—Annual dinner of the Shanghai branch of the China Association, at which Admiral Seymour replied for the Navy.
- 11th—Count von Waldersee received in audience by the Emperor of Japan at Tokyo.
- 15th—Fatal collapse in High Street, Hongkong; three Chinese killed.
- 21st—Charge against Inspector Crisp discharged in the Supreme Court.
- 23rd—Ottoman Mission to China left Shanghai unsuccessful.
- 24th—Anniversary dinner at Tientsin, commemorating the relief of the Settlements in 1900.
- 25th—Fatal fire on the U.S. tender *Arethusa* in Hongkong Harbour; nine lives were lost.
- 26th—Mr. A. G. Wise sworn in as Acting Chief Justice during the absence of Sir John Carrington, who went on leave to Japan that day.
- 29th—Mr. Byron Brennan, British Consul-General at Shanghai, left for home, having retired from the service.—First Gymkhana of the season at Hongkong.

JULY.

- 2nd—Dinner to Admiral Seymour at Government House.
- 3rd—China Association luncheon to Admiral Seymour at the Hongkong Club.
- 4th—Hon. W. H. Taft took the oath of office at Manila as first Civil Governor of the Philippines.
- 7th—Defeat of Chinese Imperial troops by Mohammedan rebels near Paotingfu.
- 9th—Presentation of the Governor's Shield to the Hongkong Volunteer Corps at Headquarters.
- 11th—Petition re sanitation in Hongkong handed in to the Colonial Secretary; 1,034 signatures were attached.—General Gaselee handed over the command of the China Expeditionary Force to General Creagh.
- 13th—Shooting match between Volunteers and non-Volunteers at Kowloon.
- 15th—Prince Chun reached Shanghai on his way to Germany on a mission of apology.
- 18th—H. E. Major-General Gascoigne went on leave to Canada.
- 20th—Disastrous fire at Nos. 6-8, Queen's Road; three lives were lost.—Inter-Christian riots at Hanchuan, Hupeh.
- 25th—Prince Chun landed in Hongkong on his way south; the reception was informal.—The dredger *Canton River* at length raised.
- 26th—Great fire at Foochow, resulting in much loss of property.—Grain embargo imposed by the Korean Government.
- 31st—Hurried departure of three British warships from Hongkong to Amoy; this was in connection with French telegraph operations at Amoy, but the scare had no foundation.

AUGUST.

- 5th—H.M.S. *Glory* struck by lightning in Hongkong Harbour.
- 11th—Arrest of a British and an American subject by the Russians at Newchwang.
- 14th—Terrible house collapse in Cochrane Street; 43 were killed and a great many injured.—Meeting in the Council Chamber about Hongkong's contribution to the Victoria Memorial Fund.
- 15th—Final Meeting of the Typhoon Relief Fund committee.
- 17th—Collision in Hongkong Harbour between the launch *Lee Sang* and the *Meean's* cutter; eight Chinese on the former were drowned.
- 22nd—Building collapse in Lower Lascar Row; one life was lost.
- 2nd—The Hongkong Government notified that plague was no longer epidemic in the Colony; the figures then were 1,619 cases and 1,548 deaths.

24th—Second gymkhana meeting of the season at Hongkong.

27th—Imperial edict against the import of arms.

30th—First enquiry into the Cochrane Street collapse.

31st—Private Chair and Ricksha Coolies Commission appointed at Hongkong.

SEPTEMBER.

- 3rd—Annual general meeting of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society.
- 4th—Prince Chun received in audience by the German Emperor at Berlin.
- 5th—V.R.C. Aquatic Sports.—Departure on leave of the Hon. F. H. May.
- 7th—News of the attack on President McKinley received in Hongkong.—Peace Protocol signed at Peking.
- 11th—H.M.S. *Albion* arrived at Hongkong.—Leong Kun Yau's case in the Supreme Court v. the Hon. F. H. May dismissed with costs.—Annual General Meeting of the Hongkong Cricket Club.
- 13th—Death at Tientsin of Major W. R. Little, Hongkong Regiment.—French school opened at Canton.
- 14th—Piracy at Potoi Island in Hongkong waters.
- 17th—Vote of condolence for President McKinley passed by the Legislative Council.—Arrival of the Chinese troops in Peking, when the Forbidden City was handed over to them.
- 19th—Second enquiry into the Cochrane Street collapse opened.
- 21st—V.R.C. Water Carnival.
- 22nd—Death of Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C., while on a holiday at Yokohama.
- 27th—Hongkong Football Club's Annual General Meeting.
- 28th—Dinner at the Club Lusitano in honour of the Portuguese Royal Birthday.—Opening of the Hongkong cricket season.—Third gymkhana of the season.

OCTOBER.

- 1st—Rebellion feared in the Yangtze Valley on account of distress caused by the floods.—News received of the attack by Triad men on the German Basel Mission station at Pingthong, Kwangtung; rebels heavily defeated by Government troops at Chowchowfu.—Return of Major-General Sir William and La'y Gascoigne.—New Japanese Admiralty port opened at Maizuru.
- 5th—Hongkong Jockey Club's Annual General meeting.
- 6th—Chinese Imperial Court left Hsianfu for Kaifeng-fu.
- 12th—Hongkong declared free from plague according to Venice Convention.—Public Works Commission appointed at Hongkong.—Lieut.-Col. Sir J. W. Carrington's farewell to the H.K.V.C.
- 15th—Visit of M. de Giers to Hongkong.—Severe typhoon in the Philippines.
- 17th—Meeting of the Queen Victoria Memorial Fund Committee at the City Hall.—Departure of Sir J. W. Carrington.
- 19th—Opening of the Volunteer Camp at Stonecutters Island.
- 24th—Death of Mr. E. Robinson, barrister, from dysentery at Hongkong.
- 28th—Visit of M. Romanoff, Russian Deputy Minister of Finance, to Vladivostok.
- 29th—The launch *Yut Fut* seized by pirates on her way from Macao to Hongkong.
- 30th—Prince Chun landed in Hongkong on his return from Europe.—Funeral of the late Mr. J. J. Francis at the Happy Valley.
- 31st—Prince Chun proceeded north.

NOVEMBER.

- 1st—Royal Welsh Fusiliers' barracks, etc., at Tientsin and British barracks at Sinho burnt down.
- 2nd—Investiture of Sir W. Gascoigne with the K. C. M. G. at Government House.
- 5th—Arrival of Sir Ernest Satow on a visit from the north.—First day of the Shanghai Autumn Race Meeting.
- 6th—Hongkong shot off in the Interport Shooting match, making the winning score of 901.
- 7th—Death of Li Hung-Chang.
- 8th—Arrival at Hongkong of Sir James Lyle Mackay, British representative in the commercial negotiations with China, and of Rear-Admiral H. T. Grenfell, second in command on the China Station.
- 9th—King's Birthday Levee at Government House, Hongkong.—Annual dinner of the

Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders.—Visit of Sir E. Satow to Canton.

11th—Public holiday at Hongkong in honour of the King's Birthday.—New Chinese Customs tariff introduced.—Opening of the Hongkong Cricket Week.

12th—Great snowstorm at Peking.

13th—Hongkong beat the Straits Settlements by 129 runs.—Fête on the Cricket Ground.

15th—A. D. C. entertained at the Theatre.

16th—Shanghai defeated the Straits at Hongkong by one wicket.

17th—Disastrous fire at 540 and 542, Des Voeux Road.

18th—H. E. the Governor laid the foundation stone of the new Tung Wa Hospital.

19th—Shanghai beat Hongkong by 7 wickets, completing the Hongkong Cricket Week.

20th—Hongkong Sanitary Board decided on general cleansing and disinfecting of the city.—Triple collision in Hongkong Harbour; s.s. *Skramstad* sunk.—Japanese Concession marked out at Chungking.

22nd—Conflagration on the s.s. *Fushun* at Canton.

25th—Arrest of Mr. T. T. Patterson, a British subject, secretary to Sixto Lopez, at Manila.

27th—H.M.S. *Cressy* arrived at Hongkong.

28th—First Annual Meeting of the Hongkong Nursing Institution.

29th—S. Andrew's Ball at Hongkong.

30th—Imperial Decree issued, disinheriting Pu Chun, the heir apparent.

DECEMBER.

1st—Arrival in Hongkong of Senhor Castello Branco, Portuguese Envoy Extraordinary to China, on his way to Macao.

9th—Indian soldier ran amok at Tientsin, killing two German soldiers; trouble narrowly averted.

10th—Foochow Races, first day.

11th—V.R.C. Regatta, first day.

12th—Major-General Dorward arrived at Shanghai to take command of the British garrison.—Destructive fire at Honam, Canton.

13th—Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., left Hongkong to take up the post of Attorney-General at Fiji.

14th—Chinese Imperial Court left Kaifengfu on its way to Peking.—Final tie of the R.A. Polo Trophy competition won by the H.K. Polo Club.—Commencement of the Hongkong Football Challenge Shield ties.

17th—First Diocesan Choral Festival at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.

23rd—Annual meeting of the City Hall shareholders and subscribers.

25th—Imperial Court reached Shengtsefu, being met by Yuan Shikai.

26th—Civilians beat United Services at cricket by 33 runs at Hongkong.

29th—German steamer *Clara* sunk in a collision in Hainan Straits.

30th—Senhor Castello Branco, the Portuguese envoy to Peking, returned to Hongkong on his way north.

31st—Suspected mutiny among newly arrived Portuguese troops at Macao averted.

HONGKONG.

His Excellency the Governor has approved of the appointment of Inspector R. G. McEwen to the position of Inspector of Markets under the Sanitary Board.

The police report the drowning of two Chinamen in the Harbour as the result of a fight. It appears that some trouble arose between the crews of two cargo-boats. A fight ensued, and two of the men getting into grips fell overboard. Both were drowned. One body has been recovered.

The resignations by Messrs. M. W. Slade and J. Mossop of their commissions as captain in the Field Battery and lieutenant in the Volunteer Corps have been accepted by H. E. the Governor, who has also approved of the former's provisional attachment as Captain to the Reserve of the Corps.

By the recent addition of 500 new rickshas to the public service, curiously, a new difficulty has arisen. The public have taken kindly to the new vehicles, so kindly, in fact, that the coolies plying the old rickshas have difficulty in obtaining fares, and the owners are becoming unable to get coolies to hire them out. This accounts for the scarcity of rickshas, at certain points, which has been the subject of general comment of late.

H.M.S. *Pique* came in from Mirs Bay on the 30th ult.

The French cruiser *Chasseloup Laubat* arrived on the 29th ult. from Nagasaki.

On the 31st ult. H.M. cruiser *Aurora* left for Taipo. The German gunboat *Ilis* arrived from Canton.

H. M. surveying ship *Waterwitch* returned from her cruise on the 1st inst. H. M. S. *Endymion* went out for practice on the 2nd.

The change of colour which some of the British men-of-war in the Harbour have been undergoing of late has caused no little comment in the Colony. It appears that Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge has received a commission to make extensive experiments as to the most suitable external paint for war vessels.

The statement of stamp revenue for the months of November 1900 and 1901 shows a decrease in the latter month of \$3,803.99. The item Conveyance or Assignment fell by no less than \$5,254, while Adhesive Stamps declined by \$1,114.38. The principal increases were exhibited by Bill of Exchange and Promissory Note, \$1,257.73, and Probate or Letters of Administration, \$1,009.63.

H.M.S. *Amphitrite*, which arrived in the harbour on Thursday morning to join the China Squadron, is a first class cruiser, built at Barrow in 1898 at a cost of £546,227. Her principal figures are:—displacement, 11,000 tons; i.h.p. 18,000 (Belleville boilers); armour, gun-position 3-6 in (Harveyed steel), deck, 4 in; armament, sixteen 6-in. Q.F., fourteen 12 pr., eleven smaller Q.F., and machine guns, and three torpedo-tubes (two submarine); speed 20.75 knots; complement 677 men.

On New Year's Day the funeral took place to Happy Valley of Drummer Russell, R.W.F., who committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a carbine. Russell was out of his mind when he took his life, and it is believed that this was brought on by bad news regarding his family which he had received from home. The coffin was borne on a gun-carriage. As the cortege entered the cemetery the band played the "Dead March" in *Saul* and the soldiers sang the words. Captain Rotherham conducted the funeral service. Russell was very popular among his comrades in the Corps, and much sympathy is felt by them for the family of the deceased.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 21st December:—Re-reels.—In sympathy with the better tone of the market, prices for this class of Silk have slightly hardened, say, to \$605 for No. 1. Business is very limited in this production (60 bales for the fortnight under review.) Filatures.—The increased activity reported in our last has been maintained during the first part of the fortnight, and over 2,000 bales have changed hands. The eager demand for all grades and sizes could be only partially satisfied, owing to the scarcity of ready stock. A good many forward contracts have consequently been placed at considerably higher prices, and most reellers are now engaged up to China New Year. Latterly, business has been checked by further advance, but the market closes very firm. Short-reels.—Have been dealt in to a fair extent, and a larger business would have been done but for the paucity of stock. Purchases amount to about 500 bales, in all grades. Prices have strengthened and rule very firm. Waste.—After a considerable period of dullness, there has been an active revival of demand for Europe and most ready holdings have been cleared off the market. The movement has awakened native speculation, and active buying in the interior has now forced prices up to a prohibitive level.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—The prices continue declining, market being weak. Quotations are:—Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.55 to \$8.60 pcl.
do. " 2, White..... 7.55 to 7.60 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 5.85 to 5.91 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.70 to 5.75 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.45 to 8.50 "
do. " 1, White..... 7.45 to 7.50 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ... 5.70 to 5.75 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.55 to 5.60 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....12.55 to 12.60 "
Shekloong "10.35 to 10.40 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—The upward tendency continues, holders being firm. Quotations are:—Saigon, Ordinary.....\$2.60 to 2.65
" Round, Good quality 3.75 to 3.80
" Long 3.95 to 4.00
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 2.75 to 2.80
" Garden, " No. 1 3.35 to 3.40
" White..... 3.85 to 3.90
" Fine Cargo 4.15 to 4.20

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—Malwa.—The market opened New at \$920/30, Old \$940.
Bengal.—The dullness which prevailed during the fortnight was broken only once, when a fair amount of business transpired in New Patna at \$920/921. A few chests of New Benares were taken up at \$915/912 and Old Patna at \$925. We close with a very quiet market and prices tending downward.

Persian.—There is no material change, best is quoted at \$640.

STOCK.

Patna.....	2,887
Benares.....	709
Malwa.....	436
Persian.....	3,452

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—A fair business at almost last rates. Stock, about 2,000 bales.
Bombay, 21.00 to 22.50 piculs
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 22.00 to 24.00 "
and Dacca, }
Shanghai and Japanese, 29.00 to 30.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo, 29.00 to 30.00 "
Sale: 900 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 3rd January: There has been some little movement in the market and a further improvement of half to one Dollar per bale has been established in favourite desired spinings. Holders are firm, and supported by telegraphic advices from Bombay are not inclined to yield to the representations made by dealers of a weak and declining market in the interior. Favourable offers from Shanghai, assisted by the current steady rate of exchange, have led to considerable purchases both from first and second hands and the stream of shipments is again being diverted northwards, thus relieving our stocks of a quantity of unsaleable goods. Best spinings are in short supply and one or two fav write chops would be taken at an advance on ruling quotations, medium and common threads form the bulk of present stock and prices are more or less irregular. The market closes quiet but steady with an improved prospect.

Local manufacture.—The local Mill is working full time, there being a good and sustained inquiry for its production, and sales of about 1,500 bales No. 10s, and 600 bales No. 12s. March delivery, at \$31½ and \$94 respectively have transpired.

Japanese Yarn continues quiet and nothing doing, and there is no apparent relief at hand.

Raw Cotton:—Indian descriptions are steady in sympathy with the continued firmness on the other side. Buying during the interval has been equally divided between Japan exporters and local and country markets, the local mill being entirely out of the running. Sales reported are 1,550 bales good to superfine Bengals at from \$22½ to \$24, leaving an unsold stock of about 1,300 bales. There is nothing doing in China Cotton, the market being bare of stock. Quotations are at \$19 to \$24 India and \$28 to \$30 China.

Exchange has continued steady with little or no fluctuations, and closes to-day at Rs. 139 for T/T and Rs. 139½ for Post. On Shanghai 73 and on Yokohama 9½ per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ending 30th ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—Total sales 10,000 bales, composing 55 bales No. 6s., 5,350 bales No. 10s., 500 bales No. 12s., 1,395 bales No. 16s., and 2,700 bales No. 20s., prices showing an advance of One to Two Taels and market closing firm and tending upwards. The unsold stock was estimated at about 40,000 bales.

Japanese:—Total sales 10,000 bales mostly for forward delivery at Tls. 87 to 89 for No. 20s., and Tls. 86½ to 88 for No. 16s., prices showing an improvement of 1½ to 2 Taels and market closing strong.

Local:—Total sales about 12,000 bales chiefly for delivery after China New Year, on the basis of Tls. 75 to 78 for No. 10s., Tls. 80½ to 81 for No. 12s., Tls. 82½ to 85 for No. 14s., and Tls. 84 to 87 for No. 16s., prices having advanced ½ to 2½ Taels and market closing firm.

COALS.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—Cardiff & Australian: No sales reported, market quiet. Japanese: General small contracts for 1902 have been made, quantity 29,000 to 25,000 tons are reported, prices for ordinary and cheap kinds are easier, while the best kinds continue firm.

Cardiff.....\$19.00 to 20.00, weak, ex ship, nominal
Australian \$21.00 to 22.50 ex godown, nominal
Yubari Lump ...\$12.00 to 12.50 ex godown, nominal

Miki Lump.....\$10.00 ex ship, nominal
Moji Lump\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, quiet
Hongay double } 10.50 ex godown
screened }
Hongay Lump..... 8.50 ex ship } nominal
Hongay Dust 6.00 " }
Briquettes16.00 "

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$75.00 to \$117.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.20
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	2.80 to 3.50
9 to 10 lbs.	3.60 to 4.55
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35 to 2.60
58 to 60 "	3.05 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.10 to 5.75
Fine.....	5.20 to 7.30
Book-folds 4.20	to 6.25
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 "), "	1.90 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.85 to 2.05
7lbs. (32 "), "	2.75 to 3.25
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.85 to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs.	4.00 to 6.75

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs } 1.50 to 5.00

Brocades—Dyed — to —

AMASKS—

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted — to —	
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.26

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk — to —	

WOOLLENS—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.62½ to 1.70	
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 3.00	

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.35 to 8.10
Assorted.....	6.45 to 8.20
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.00 to 30.75
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 11.00 to 17.00	
Assorted }	

Orleans—Plain — to —

	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	2.50 to 4.00

METALS—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod 4.35 to —	
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.25 to —
Swedish Bar 6.75 to —	
Small Round Rod 4.75 to —	
Hoop ½ to 1½ in. 5.50 to —	
Wire 15/25 8.75 to —	
Old Wire Rope 2.50 to —	
Pig Non..... 35.50 to 36.50	
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 7.75 to —	
Australian 7.60 to —	
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —	
Vivian's 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —	
Elliot's 14/20 oz. 39.50 to —	
Composition Nails..... 63.00 to —	
Japan Copper, Slabs..... 42.00 to —	
Tin..... 69.25 to —	

	per box.
Tin-Plates 7.50 to —	

	per cwt. case
Steel ½ to ¾ 5.50 to —	

SUNDRIES—

	per picul
Quicksilver 168.00 to —	

	per box.
Window Glass 6.30 to —	

	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil..... 2.27 to —	

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 3rd January.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10 ³ / ₄
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10 ³ / ₄
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1 10 ⁷ / ₈
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 ³ / ₄
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 ³ / ₄
Documentary Bills, 4 months sight	1/10 ³ / ₄
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.34 ¹ / ₂
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.38 ¹ / ₂
ON GERMANY.—On demand	
Bank Bills, on demand	45 ¹ / ₂
Credits, 60 days' sight	46 ¹ / ₂
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	139
Bank, on demand	139 ¹ / ₂
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	139
Bank, on demand	139 ¹ / ₂
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	73 ¹ / ₂
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	9
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 ¹ / ₂
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	113
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 ¹ / ₂
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 ¹ / ₂
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.62
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	55
BAR SILVER per oz.	25 ¹ / ₂

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—Business has opened with a firm tone after the New Year holidays, and many of the principal stocks show an advancing tendency. The December settlement passed off satisfactorily.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have advanced to \$625, at which, however, more shares are obtainable. The London rate has improved to £63. Nationals can still be placed at \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions can be had at \$345. China Traders are wanted at \$52, and North Chinas at Tls. 18¹/₂. Yangtzes are offering in small lots at \$130, and Cantons at \$155.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are quiet at \$365. Chinas have advanced to \$9¹/₂ with a few small lots still to be had at the rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have further advanced to \$36¹/₂ with buyers. Indo-Chinas have also improved to \$141 buyers cash, and \$142 for the 31st instant, at both of which rates sales have been effected. China Manilas are quiet at \$0. Douglasses are obtainable at \$47, and Star Ferries at \$24 and \$9 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports are unchanged at £2. 12s. 6d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have sold at \$151. Luzons are unaltered at \$26.

MINING.—We have heard of no business under this head, and quotations are unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold at \$290 and \$291, and more shares are wanted at the former rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are offering at \$94. New Amoy Docks are in request at \$28.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands can be procured at \$195, and Kowloon Lands at \$33. West Points are obtainable at \$65. Humphreys Estates have sold and are wanted at \$14. Hongkong Hotels can be placed at \$138. Orientals are quiet at \$56.

COTTON MILLS.—There are no changes to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have declined slightly to \$21¹/₂ with sellers. Tramways have further advanced to \$300, ex dividend, buyers, and China Providents to \$9.85 buyers. Watkins are wanted at \$10. In other stocks there is no business or change in quotations to report.

MEMO.—Dairy Farm Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on Friday, 10th instant, for the purpose of confirming the special resolution passed at the meeting of shareholders on the 18th December, 1901.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	{ \$625, sellers £63, L'don.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	nominal.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
H. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.85, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$151.
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$52.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 48.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 30.
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$13 ¹ / ₂ .
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$21 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$300, ex div., buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$138, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$195.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$94, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$175.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$290.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$90, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$52, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$365.
North China	£25	Tls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$345, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$130, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$195, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$14, sales & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$33.
West Point Building	\$50	\$65, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$26.
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$45, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$375, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$4 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	4 cents.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	nominal.
Do. B.	\$4 ¹ / ₂	nominal.
Punjum	\$10	\$5, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$14, sellers
Raub	18	\$10, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 ¹ / ₂	\$28, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$56.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9 ¹ / ₂ .
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$60, sales
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10.
Do. Ordinary	£7. 10	£7. 10s.
Do. Bonus	£5	£5.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$36 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$141, buyers
Shel. Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£2. 12s. 6d.
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$21, sellers { \$9, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$9 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$20 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15 ¹ / ₂ , sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 23rd December (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). This circular goes to press two days earlier than usual, owing to the Christmas Holidays; in the interval rates have been maintained and a fair general business transacted. INSURANCE.—Marine. These are quiet; Yangtzes are wanted. Fire. Nothing doing. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. Local sales for cash and 31st instant took place at Tls. 106. Settlements were made for March at Tls. 109 and 113.50 for July; forward shares are on offer. Shell Transport and Trading Co., Ltd. shares are wanted. China Mutual S. N. Co. shares offering. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd. Cash rates have been steady and sales made at Tls. 8.90, 9.25, 9.00, the market closing firm with buyers at 9.00-9.25. Settlements were made for March at 9.25, April 9.35, June 9.50. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd. Shares have been in firm demand and were placed at Tls. 247.50-252.50, market closing with buyers at last rate. A transaction is reported at Tls. 255 for cash. Settlements were made for March at Tls. 260, 262.50 and April at 265. LANDS—Shanghai are in strong demand and buyers are offering Tls. 101-102. Weihaiweis were placed at Tls. 20. INDUSTRIAL.—Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd. The Directors' Report and Statement of Account for the year ending 31st October, 1901, have been published for presentation at the meeting of shareholders convened for the 27th current. The Working Account shows a surplus of Tls. 195,125.82 as compared with Tls. 130,230.04 in the previous year. The net profits amount to Tls. 104,479.94, equal to 6.96 per cent. on the paid up Capital. After deducting the profits from the balance of Tls. 118,118.66 brought forward, there is a balance of Tls. 21,141.42 carried forward to debit of Profit and Loss account. Cash shares sold at Tls. 42.50. Major Bros. Shares changed hands at Tls. 40 cash. Pulp and Paper Mills sold at Tls. 102.50 for cash and 31st instant and 105 for March. Cements were purchased at \$22.00. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—These have been quiet; Shanghai and Taku Tugs are wanted. MISCELLANEOUS.—Sumatra Tobacco shares were taken at Tls. 40-38 and have sellers at 39. Langkat Tobacco Co. Cash shares changed hands at Tls. 332.50-335 and the same rates obtained for 31st instant. A settlement was made for March at 350. Telephone shares are offering. Astor House Hotels were taken at \$285.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 3rd January.—Freights continue dull, with very little enquiry for prompt tonnage. From Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul; last; to one port north coast Java, 20 cents last; to Philippines, 24 cents per picul. North coast Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul for wet and 15 cents per picul for dry sugar. Coal freights are weak. Moji to this, \$1.75; to Singapore, \$2.35; Karatsu to Manila, \$3.75 per ton.

The following are the settlements:—

Hans Menzell—German steamer, 1,695 tons, Karatsu to Manila, \$3 75 per ton.
Heim—Norwegian steamer, 1,046 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.75 per ton.
Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.90 per ton.
Kvarven—Norwegian steamer, 1,754 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.90 per ton.
Emma—German steamer, 1,681 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.35 per ton.
Paz—Belgian steamer, 1,092 tons, hence to Saigon (keosine oil), 12 cents per case.
Marie Jebben—German steamer, 1,771 tons, Saigon to one/two ports north coast Java (45,000 piculs), 29 cents and 31 cents per picul.
B. & S. steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java (30/32,000 piculs), 30 cents per picul.
Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to one/two ports north coast Java (33,000 piculs), 31 and 33 cents per picul.
B. & S. steamer, Saigon to one/two ports north coast Java (30/32,000 piculs), 33 cents and 35 cents per picul.
Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to Singapore, \$4.50 in full.
Amoy—German steamer, 732 tons, Saigon to one or two ports Philippines, 24 cents and 27 cents per picul.
"Shan" steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines, 26 cents per picul.
Peiyang—German steamer, 1,036 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.
Jacob Diederichsen—German steamer, 623 tons, monthly, 8 months, at \$5,900 per month.
Brand—Norwegian steamer 1,519 tons, monthly, 9 months, private terms.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

December—

- 29, China, German str., from Saigon.
 29, Pique, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
 29, Taichidw, German str., from Ang Hin.
 30, Chyo Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
 30, Chunsang, British str., from Tientsin.
 30, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
 31, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
 30, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 30, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 31, Asama, British str., from Foochow.
 31, Australian, British str., from Australia.
 31, Caledonien, French str., from Marseilles.
 31, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 31, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 31, Hunan, British str., from Chinkiang.
 31, Kumano Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
 31, Pakhoi, British str., from Chinkiang.
 31, Shanghai, British str., from London.
 31, Tritos, German str., from Swatow.
 31, Iltis, German str., from Canton.
 31, Else, German str., from Canton.
 31, Foochow, British str., from Canton.
 31, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., from Canton.
 31, Hong Bee, British str., from Straits.

January—

- 1, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 1, Nurnberg, German str., from Shanghai.
 1, Tingsang, British str., from Canton.
 1, Waterwitch, British s.s., from a cruise.
 2, Amphitrite, British cruiser, from London.
 2, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 2, Emma, German str., from Canton.
 2, Glenfarg, British str., from Tacoma.
 2, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 2, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 2, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 2, Taisang, British str., from Swatow.
 2, Valetta, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Haiphong.
 2, Herm. Menzell, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 2, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 2, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 3, Albion, British battleship, from Kobe.
 3, Hai Chi, Chinese str., from Kwongchowwan.
 3, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 3, Kwangping, British str., from Canton.

December—

DEPARTURES.

- 29, Kvarven, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 29, Kwangping, British str., for Canton.
 29, Kweilin, British str., for Canton.
 29, Sullberg, German str., for Hoihow.
 30, Chiyuen, American str., for Shanghai.
 30, Chunsang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 30, Kwangles, British str., for Canton.
 30, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 30, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Yarra, French str., for Europe.
 31, Aurora, British cruiser, for Tai-po.
 31, Amoy, German str., for Saigon.
 31, Caledonien, French str., for Shanghai.
 31, Canton, British str., for Foochow.
 31, Hiroshima Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 31, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 23, Laisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 31, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
 31, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 31, Taicheong, German str., for Taiwanfoo.
 31, Taishun, American str., for Shanghai.

January—

- 1, Elsa, German str., for Hongay.
 1, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Telemachus, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
 2, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 2, Asama, British str., for New York.
 2, Endymion, British cruiser, for Practice.
 2, Hunan, British str., for Canton.
 3, Kumano Maru, Japanese str., for Sydney.
 2, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 2, Osberga, British bark, for New York.
 2, Pakhoi, British str., for Canton.
 3, Australian, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
 3, Bussard, German cruiser, for Saigon.
 3, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 3, Hertha, German cruiser, for Saigon.
 3, Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.
 3, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Chefoo.
 3, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
 3, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Hiroshima Maru*, from Bombay and Singapore, Messrs. Morikawa, Nanabashi and Kubota.

Per *Sandakan*, from Sandakan, Messrs. Breitag and Klamburg.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai and Swatow, Miss Pearden, Miss Leman, Messrs. Gordon, Parr, Pennington, Pralzhaft, Holmes and Bracksann.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Messrs. A. R. Agassiz, Holson and Adair.

Per *Yarra*, for Hongkong, from Nagasaki, Messrs. K. Riddoch and Golduran; from Kobe, Mr. Kajuo; from Shanghai, Mrs. Tisdall, Mr.

Mrs. and Miss Brockelbank, Messrs. Beckett, London, Maclay, James Fox, Johnson, Alfred, Shapira, Riber, Vidal, Dugas, Thelks and Rev. Aucourt; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mrs. Huyvenard; for Singapore, Messrs. W. Steel and Chotermoll, Mrs. Katsuyo and Mrs. Oki; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. Suares, Cholet, Miyooka, Le Coze and Denis Alaïre; from Shanghai, Mrs. Loubertier, Rev. Bariner, Messrs. Dalvy, Tafforin, Le Bris, Verdier and Leray.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c., Messrs. E. J. Walsh and J. L. Loveland.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mrs. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Hood, Dr. and Mrs. Alfred, Mr. and Mrs. Musaka, Rev. H. Stantz, Messrs. B. Son-tua, J. Tangoro, W. D. Lyon and J. Walters.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Hamburg, &c., Mrs. Swan and child, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Hickie, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Spinner, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Witton, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. R. Capell, Mr. and Mrs. D. MacIver, Dr. and Mrs. Wittenberg and child, Misses Buttler, H. Gordon and C. Lehmann, Capt. Voogdt, Dr. E. Delmar, Messrs. F. W. Burtwell, A. Rodger, W. Taylor, E. Delbanco, C. Schroter, A. Sanden, T. Idomura, H. A. Thamason, H. Reter, J. Delpelch, T. Gibb, C. Shaw, F. Blake, Blackie, F. A. Brown, Ch. Buchanan, C. Klevenow, O. Hinterhuber, W. Rust, F. Anderson, D. Laby and V. B. Lewis.

Per *Hanoi*, from Haiphong, &c., Mr. Therme.

Per *Formosa*, from Tamsui, &c., Rev. J. J. son, Capt. Buaji and Mr. Richardson.

Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Kiox and Mr. Dourdin; from Colombo, Revs. Gabriel and Isidori and Mr. Lee Vanght; from Singapore, Mr. Van den Weddow; from Saigon, Messrs. Cartier Brenon, V. Hovello, Scribe and François; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Capt. Morean, Lieuts. Chauvin and Lerout, Sergt.-Major Hellies, Lieut.-Col. Milo, Miss Isnard, Messrs. Gerican, Montrieff, Ginotto and Fritz-Pape; from Port Said, Mr. Ganayolis; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Mr. Gzilenzky; for Kobe, from Batavia, Mr. and Mrs. Chaix; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Hakai, Mr. and Mrs. Hein, Mr. and Mrs. Suzor and three children, Messrs. Odin, Kishi and Tracey; from Bombay, Mr. and Miss Schneitzer, Mr. and Mrs. Fichmann and two children; from Colombo, Messrs. Vertonzin Goens, Strauss and Gordon.

Per *Shanghai*, from London, for Hongkong, Mrs. W. B. Dixon, Miss E. Dixon, Mr. W. Dixon, Master K. Dixon, and Mr. H. W. Merrill; for Manila, Messrs. G. F. Sinclair and A. Turner; for Shanghai, Lieut. E. T. Ayling; for Yokohama, Mr. J. M. Maitland; from Penang, for Hongkong, Mr. Walter; from Singapore, Mr. R. and Mrs. Abenhiem; for Shanghai, from Singapore, Capt. Pearce.

Per *Hong Bee* from Penang and Singapore, Mrs. Peters, and Miss Peters.

Per *Taisang*, from Swatow, Mrs. Kirby and child, Messrs. J. George and A. Cattanco.

Per *American Mail*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. E. Faint, Mrs. G. W. Beaver, Misses A. W. Beaver, E. Beaver and K. W. Beaver, Mrs. L. D. McCoy and Miss H. V. McCoy, Mrs. and Miss E. Diggan, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Perrey, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Robertson, Miss and Master Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Long, Mr. and Mrs. G. Grebin, Mrs. E. O. Miller, Misses H. R. and G. Manchester, Mr. A. E. Roe and Miss Roe, Misses A. E. Nielsen, G. Hooper and M. Hirsch, Rev. T. Emmott, Maj. Leonard, Messrs. G. P. Fox, K. J. Guzder, R. H. Wright, R. T. Safford, N. Borovsky, M. Kreminsky, Moore, H. A. Belden, T. K. Ball, N. S. Merserve, W.

G. Winterburn, E. Hoeft, A. S. Knagge, V. Elhoff, Tevis, W. Danby, G. W. Wood, Capt. Bland, R. A., and Lieut. C. C. Peatty, R. E.

Per *Australian*, from Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess and two children; from Sydney, Misses Rae, N. Marshall, E. Stevens, B. Vale, Webster, Glanville and McInnes, Messrs. E. W. White and J. Cameron; from Queensland, Mr. W. H. Corfield; from Port Darwin, Mr. J. Sachi; from Timor, Mesdames D. Maria E. Tavares, D. Verisina e Borges and child, Miss Alice Adelia Tavares, Messrs. Alberto Carlos, Jose Henriques Tavares, Nicolas T. da Roza and three children, Preke Sebastio M. A. da Silva, Preke Manoel M. A. da Silva, J. Manoel da Rocha and Lobias E. Joanello; from Manila, Mr. W. B. Walker.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from London, for Hongkong, Mrs. Northcote, Messrs. W. Brown, A. Atkins, W. Anderson, Norris, M. Stephens, C. Kaye, G. Perfect, A. Keat, J. McNob and T. Valentine; for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. Gomes and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Gillon, Mr. and Mrs. K. Hatoyama, Mr. Ferbes, Drs. Y. Onishi and C. Giotoka, Messrs. T. Nishimura and I. Ichii.

Per *Valetta*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. W. Reeve, W. E. Schmidt, S. Domenico, R. Arleneico, M. Candido, D. Sartiano, P. Francesca, W. H. Brown, Wesby and Furholzer and Miss M. Albert; for London, Mr. C. H. O'Dowd.

DEPARTED.

Per *Wakasa Maru*, from Hongkong for Europe, Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Shower and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Huntington and child; Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Woodger and infant and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Stovell and 2 children and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Hendley, Mrs. Mall Smith, Mrs. S. C. Moore and infant, Misses Seymour, Arnold, H. Duncan, H. Seymour, E. Hendley, M. Hendley and Hendley, Lieut. Y. Ohyama, Surgeon M. Hirano, Pay-Master K. Murata, Masters P. Hendley and C. Hendley, Messrs. K. Nakano, E. R. Thompson, S. Nagano, K. Ito, S. Sugiura, K. Sekiguchi, M. Tanaka, L. W. T. Lewis, R. C. Lees, T. J. B. Richard and T. Tokumi.

Per *Java*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Captain Warren, R. G. A.; from Shanghai for London, Mrs. Dumfries and 2 infants.

Per *Iyo Maru*, for Victoria, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. Mossop, Messrs. J. W. Kinghorn and Wm. P. McKinnel, and Mrs. T. Imai.

Per *Yarra*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Marquie, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hood; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edwin Harvey, Lieut. Schevart, Messrs. Rotinann, Ulrich and E. S. Young; for Marseilles, Messrs. Candlot, Brisault and D. F. Borelto.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. J. A. Sanches, Mrs. B. Cuntz, Messrs. W. T. Peiddepha, Smith, C. S. Moore, A. R. Agassiz, C. Blake, T. d'Agostini and N. Jerdes; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Saki, Mrs. Ohia, Messrs. T. Neshimura, Kenira, Kitano, Caneco, F. Towge, Akiam, Vanive, Okasaki and A. Joulinosky.

Per *Kumano Maru*, for Manila, Mrs. N. J. Roza, Mrs. C. C. Faxon, Mrs. Bennet, Mrs. Fredenhall, Mrs. Bullard and child, Mrs. and Master Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Botelho, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Caballero, Miss Caballero and two children, Miss N. Moreno, Messrs. L. A. Cotten, T. Isomura, J. C. Wilkinson, F. W. Horne, Chas. S. Strauss, Grant van Horne, Jno. M. G. Torey, W. Nolan, Mon. Orlan, W. T. Francis, O. H. Kullerad, P. J. Blick, F. W. Tawle, Purry, A. N. Gilmon, F. H. Sergeant, Chas. G. Droyer, A. Muller, K. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. S. Morikawa; for Thursday Island, Mr. S. Okamoto; for Townsville, Mr. W. M. Rice and Consul Tayin and family; for Brisbane, Mr. and Mrs. Greaves and Mr. J. B. Mitchell; for Sydney, Mrs. J. Tisdall, Justice and Mrs. P. Real, Mr. E. Real and Miss L. Real, Mr. and Mrs. Muirhead, Mr. and Mrs. S. Salmon, Miss Salmon, Mr. and Mrs. Clapperton, Misses R. F. Norie, E. L. Norie, Cowper, A. Drysdale, M. C. Bell and Smith, Messrs. P. G. Gray, Marks, Duff, A. Wicke and Wallace; for Melbourne, Miss Hooper, Messrs. Rankin, C. T. Hobbs and J. F. Mitchell.

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